



# ILLUMINARE OMNES

Monthly Bulletin of the Diocese of Eluru  
Bishop's House - 534 007. W.G.Dt., A.P, India



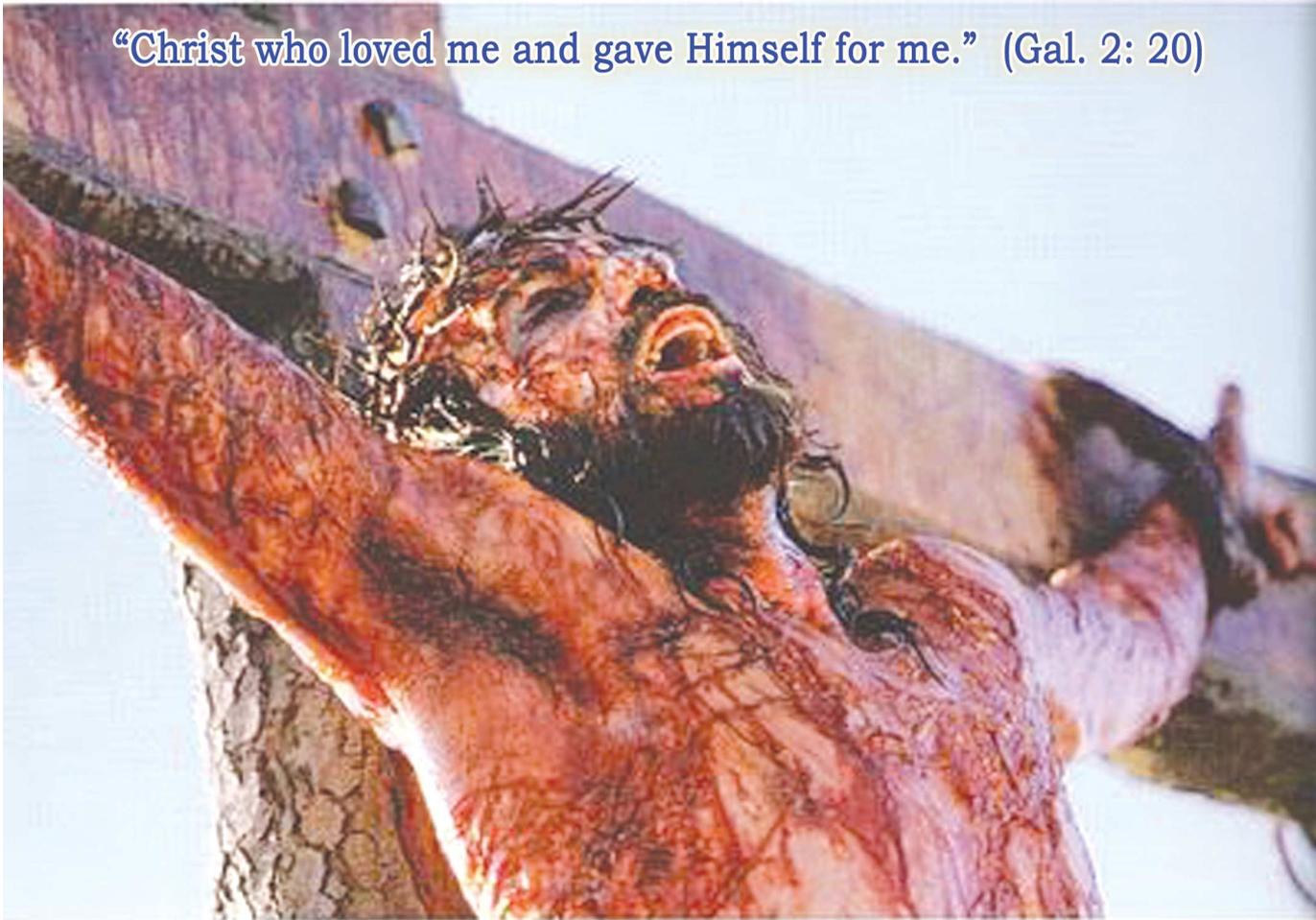
Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera  
Bishop of Eluru

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“Christ who loved me and gave Himself for me.” (Gal. 2: 20)



**REAL LOVE**  
isn't our love for God, but  
**HIS LOVE FOR US.**

1 John 4:10



**His Lordship Jaya Rao participating New Year Mass at Bhimavaram on Dec. 31, 2015.**



**His Lordship Jaya Rao welcoming & felicitating Rev. Fr. Joseph Raja Rao Thelegathoti, Bishop-Elect, Diocese of Vijayawada, at Bishop's House, Eluru.**



**His Lordship Jaya Rao participating in the Eucharistic adoration conducted by the Eluru Vicariate at the Cathedral, Eluru, on Jan. 18, 2016.**



**His Lordship Jaya Rao participating in the Year of Consecrated Life celebrations conducted by Nirmalagiri Vicariate at Dondapudi on Jan. 7, 2016.**

'Divya Vani' Telugu Catholic TV official logo



His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera conferring Priestly & Diaconate Ordinations at SFS College, Janampeta, on Jan. 22, 2016.



Concluding celebrations of the YCL of Jangareddugudem vicariate at Tadikalapudi on Jan. 23, 2016.



Rev. Fr. Dr. Inje Paul, Vicar Forane of Cathedral Vicariate, along with his vicariate members celebrating the YCL at Ashok Nagar, Eluru, on Jan. 20, 2016.



His Lordship Jaya Rao participating in the silver jubilee celebrations of St. Augustine EM School, Pedapadu on Jan. 8, 2016.



His Lordship Jaya Rao participating in the silver jubilee celebrations of St. Lucy EM School, Janampeta, on Jan. 12, 2016.



Leadership training programme conducted by Rev. Fr. K. Charles, Youth Director, at Bishops House, Eluru, on Jan. 15, 2016.

**DIOCESAN-LEVEL CELEBRATIONS OF THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE & THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY (JAN. 26, 2016, JANAMPETA )**



**OFFICIAL**

## **Jesus, who suffered and died for the sake of humanity, Will renew all things**

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Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, prayerful greetings and best wishes to you from your Bishop.

We are reaching the most significant part of the Church's calendar – the 'Lenten Season'. Lent is a time for that deeper meeting with God and the true conversion of our hearts, where we will be reflecting on the passion, crucifixion, death of Jesus Christ.

Fulton J. Sheen in his immortal book, *Life of Christ* says: "Jesus was not taking refuse in God because He must die; rather His dying was a service to humanity and the fulfillment of the will of the Father."

Was it God's Plan that the Christ should suffer and die for the salvation of man? Why did Jesus have to suffer brutally? Was there another way that Jesus could have accomplished the salvation of man and if not, why did it have to be the way of suffering and death?

God is full of power, grace, wisdom, covenant love, and compassion. He could have indeed chosen another way other than the Cross. But, He chose the terrifying and bloody passion of His beloved Son as the means for our redemption. Jesus spoke of this Passion as a plan that must be fulfilled. Jesus begins to prepare His disciples for the terrible coming events of His Passion in Matthew 16:21-23. From then onwards, Jesus began to make it clear to His disciples that He was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be put to death, where he also says to Peter "get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because you are thinking not as God thinks but as human beings do." Jesus fully understood the sacrificial nature of His death as His Father's plan. (John 10:16). The crucifixion was the plan of salvation. It was necessary that He will suffer and die because the plan of God had been established.

The Passion of Christ not only moves us to have faith and hope in God but also motivates us to a grateful love for God by realizing the depth of His love for us. (Romans 5:8). He loved his persecutors and prayed for them (Mt. 5:44). He showed the world a new definition to love.



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So, **Christ's suffering shows us how to love.** It is an invitation for us to be like the Father and calls us to love as God loves us in this present world filled with evil, jealousy, discrimination and gossips. St. Peter expressed this in 1 Peter 2:1, telling us that Christ set us an example... in order to live. We must in "the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13) and that we must live our lives in imitation of Christ's life.

Jesus' Passion shows us most clearly how we must unite with His sacrifice in our lives in our attitude to others (Philippians 2:5-6, 8). He called us to love as He had loved us with self-sacrificing love. Every Priest is called to be a disciple in order to be a witness to Christ.

Our journey today may be burdened with struggles and sufferings but the dawn is very near. Jesus, who suffered and died for the sake of humanity, will **"renew all things"; if we learn to hang on the Cross we can stand against any power of the World.** Never forget, there is absolute victory behind the shadow of the Cross.

It means that Priests and Religious must represent the face of Christ to the world. In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Holy Father time and again reminds us that "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's Mercy. (Misericordiae Vultus. 1). The Passion of the Lord is the clearest expression of the Father's mercy which forgives our sins and saves us.

Lent invites us to fix our gaze on the face of the Lord hanging on the Cross and immerse ourselves into the mystery of God's saving mercy. On January 25, 2016, our Holy Father said that GOD'S MERCY TRANSFORMS HUMAN HEARTS; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn." Holy Father desires that we live this Lent more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy. (Misericordiae Vultus. 17).

Let us pray for each other as we journey together through this holy season of Lent.

God bless you.

+ **Jaya Rao Polimera**



## YEAR OF MERCY

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.  
Show us your face and we will be saved.

## LET US LISTEN TO THE HOLY FATHER



### MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT– 2016 Live your faith during Lent, perform works of mercy (Summary of the message)

**'Lent' is a time of conversion and a time to deepen one's faith**, demonstrating and sharing it through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

"Faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit. Feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, welcoming strangers, offering instruction, giving comfort —



"on such things will we be judged. Particularly during the Year of Mercy, **Catholics are called to recognize their own need for God's mercy**, the greatness of God's love seen in the death and resurrection of Christ.

**The root of all sin" is thinking that one is god, something often expressed in a total preoccupation for accumulating money and power.** The danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their

hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor. The proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is hell.

In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited. In the spiritual works of mercy — counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer — we touch more directly our own sinfulness. In the Christian life, the corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated.

- From the Vatican, 4 October 2015, Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

### **Look at the good, and do not kill with gossip**

Let us also ask the Lord the grace never, because of envy, to hand over to death a brother, a sister of the parish, of the community, or even someone in our neighbourhood. Everyone has their sins, everyone has their virtues. They are specific to each individual. Look at the good, and do not kill with gossip through envy or jealousy.

### **Welcome pilgrims in this Jubilee Year**

"Making pilgrimages to shrines is one of the most eloquent expressions of the faith of God's people and is a form of evangelization which needs to be increasingly promoted and valued." Three thousand pilgrimage operators and rectors of shrines gathered in the Paul VI hall on Jan 28, 2016, to hear Pope Francis speak about the beauty and devotion of those who go on pilgrimages. The Pope told these Jubilee participants that making pilgrimages to shrines is one of the most eloquent expressions of the faith of God's people, and is a form of evangelization.

**Welcome pilgrims** - Those that go on a pilgrimage and who reach their destination, Pope Francis explained, should feel at home, loved and looked on with eyes of mercy. Anyone, he said, young or old, rich or poor, sick or troubled, the curious tourist, can receive a welcome because in each one there is a heart that seeks God.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** - Stressing the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially in this Jubilee Year, the Pope underlined that those who approach the confessional do so because they are repentant of their sins. God, he added, does not condemn, but welcomes and hugs them, like the father of the prodigal son. The Holy Father also stressed that priests who carry out a ministry in sanctuaries must have a heart of mercy; their attitude must be that of a father.

- Pope Francis, Jan 28, 2016

**'DON'T FORGET YOUR VOCATION,'  
(Pope tells religious while celebrating Mass  
in the St. Peter's basilica for the end of the Year of Consecrated Life.)**



"Each one of us has a place, a job to do in the Church. Please, do not forget your first vocation, your first call. Remember this. And with that love with which you were called, today the Lord continues to call to you. Do not let that beauty, that wonder of the first call, diminish. Keep working. ... There is always



something to do. The main thing is to pray. The centre of consecrated life is prayer. And so we age, but we age like good wine!"

- POPE FRANCIS, Feb. 2, 2016

**God's people suffer if their bishops fail to pray**

The bishop's task is to pray and to proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus; if a bishop does not pray and does not announce the Gospel but is concerned with other things, God's people suffer.

After the death of Judas, Matthias is elected in "the first episcopal ordination of the Church." And, the Pope pointed out, "the bishops are pillars of the Church," called to be witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus: "We bishops have this responsibility to be witnesses: witnesses to the fact that the Lord Jesus is alive, that the Lord Jesus is risen, that the Lord Jesus walks with us, that the Lord Jesus saves us, that the Lord Jesus gave his life for us, that the Lord Jesus is our hope, that the Lord Jesus always welcomes us and forgives us.

**Bishops have two jobs: to pray and to preach** - "The first task of a bishop is to be with Jesus in prayer. The first job of a bishop is not to prepare pastoral plans ... no, no! Prayer: this is the first task. The second task is to be a witness, that is, to preach. To preach the salvation that the Lord Jesus has brought. Two tasks that are not easy, but it is precisely these two tasks that are the strong pillars of the Church.

**“Pray for us bishops: we too have weaknesses”** - The Pope invited the faithful to pray for “us bishops, because we too are sinners; we too have weaknesses. The people of God pray for the bishops. In every Mass we pray for the bishops. We pray for Peter, the head of the college of bishops, and we pray for our local bishop. But this is not enough: we say the name, and many times we say it out of habit, and then we go on. Pray for the bishop with your heart! Ask the Lord: Lord, take care of my bishop; take care of all the bishops, and send us bishops who are true witnesses - bishops who pray and bishops who help us through their preaching to understand the Gospel, so that we may trust that you, Lord, are alive and that you’re with us. ”

- Pope Francis, Jan. 22, 2016

## **There cannot be a genuine quest for Christian unity without entrusting ourselves fully to the Father’s mercy**

In this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, we have very present that there cannot be a genuine quest for Christian unity without entrusting ourselves fully to the Father’s mercy. Let us ask first of all for forgiveness for the sin of our divisions, which are an open wound in the Body of Christ.

As Bishop of Rome and Pastor of the Catholic Church, I want to invoke mercy and forgiveness for the non-evangelical behaviours of Catholics in their relations with Christians of other Churches. At the same time, I invite all Catholic brothers and sisters to forgive if, today or in the past, they suffered offenses by other Christians. We cannot cancel what was, but we do not want the weight of the faults of the past to continue to pollute our relations. God’s mercy will renew our relations.

- Pope’s Homily at Vespers to Conclude Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on January 25, 2016

## **Communication and Mercy: A Fruitful Encounter**

The Holy Year of Mercy invites all of us to reflect on the relationship between communication and mercy. The Church, in union with Christ, the living incarnation of the Father of Mercies, is called to practise mercy as the distinctive trait of all that she is and does. What we say and how we say it, our every word and gesture, ought to express God’s compassion, tenderness and forgiveness for all. Love, by its nature, is communication; it leads to openness and sharing. If our hearts and actions are inspired by charity, by divine love, then our communication will be touched by God’s own power.

As sons and daughters of God, we are called to communicate with everyone, without exception. In a particular way, the Church’s words and actions are all meant to convey mercy, to touch people’s hearts and to sustain them on their journey to that fullness of life which Jesus Christ was sent by the Father to bring to all. This means that we ourselves must be willing to accept the warmth of Mother Church and to share that warmth with others, so that Jesus may be known and loved. That warmth is what gives substance to the word of faith; by our preaching and witness, it ignites the “spark” which gives them life.

Communication has the power to build bridges, to enable encounter and inclusion, and thus to enrich society. How beautiful it is when people select their words and actions with care, in the effort to avoid misunderstandings, to heal wounded memories and to build peace and harmony. Words can build bridges between individuals and within families, social groups and peoples. This is possible

both in the material world and the digital world. Our words and actions should be such as to help us all escape the vicious circles of condemnation and vengeance which continue to ensnare individuals and nations, encouraging expressions of hatred. The words of Christians ought to be a constant encouragement to communion and, even in those cases where they must firmly condemn evil, they should never try to rupture relationships and communication.

For this reason, I would like to invite all people of good will to rediscover the power of mercy to heal wounded relationships and to restore peace and harmony to families and communities. All of us know how many ways ancient wounds and lingering resentments can entrap individuals and stand in the way of communication and reconciliation. The same holds true for relationships between peoples. In every case, mercy is able to create a new kind of speech and dialogue. Shakespeare put it eloquently when he said: "The quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed: it blesseth him that gives and him that takes" (The Merchant of Venice, Act IV, Scene I).

Our political and diplomatic language would do well to be inspired by mercy, which never loses hope. I ask those with institutional and political responsibility, and those charged with forming public opinion, to remain especially attentive to the way they speak of those who think or act differently or those who may have made mistakes. It is easy to yield to the temptation to exploit such situations to stoke the flames of mistrust, fear and hatred. Instead, courage is needed to guide people towards processes of reconciliation. It is precisely such positive and creative boldness which offers real solutions to ancient conflicts and the opportunity to build lasting peace. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Mt 5:7-9)

How I wish that our own way of communicating, as well as our service as pastors of the Church, may never suggest a prideful and triumphant superiority over an enemy, or demean those whom the world considers lost and easily discarded. Mercy can help mitigate life's troubles and offer warmth to those who have known only the coldness of judgment. May our way of communicating help to overcome the mindset that neatly separates sinners from the righteous. We can and we must judge situations of sin – such as violence, corruption and exploitation – but we may not judge individuals, since only God can see into the depths of their hearts. It is our task to admonish those who err and to denounce the evil and injustice of certain ways of acting, for the sake of setting victims free and raising up those who have fallen. The Gospel of John tells us that "the truth will make you free" (Jn 8:32). The truth is ultimately Christ himself, whose gentle mercy is the yardstick for measuring the way we proclaim the truth and condemn injustice. Our primary task is to uphold the truth with love (cf. Eph 4:15). Only words spoken with love and accompanied by meekness and mercy can touch our sinful hearts. Harsh and moralistic words and actions risk further alienating those whom we wish to lead to conversion and freedom, reinforcing their sense of rejection and defensiveness.

Some feel that a vision of society rooted in mercy is hopelessly idealistic or excessively indulgent. But let us try and recall our first experience of relationships, within our families. Our parents loved us and valued us for who we are more than for our abilities and achievements. Parents naturally want the best for their children, but that love is never dependent on their meeting certain conditions. The family home is one place where we are always welcome (cf. Lk 15:11-32). I would like to encourage everyone to see society not as a forum where strangers compete and try to come out on top, but above all as a home or a family, where the door is always open and where everyone feels welcome.

For this to happen, we must first listen. Communicating means sharing, and sharing demands listening and acceptance. Listening is much more than simply hearing. Hearing is about receiving

information, while listening is about communication, and calls for closeness. Listening allows us to get things right, and not simply to be passive onlookers, users or consumers. Listening also means being able to share questions and doubts, to journey side by side, to banish all claims to absolute power and to put our abilities and gifts at the service of the common good.

Listening is never easy. Many times it is easier to play deaf. Listening means paying attention, wanting to understand, to value, to respect and to ponder what the other person says. It involves a sort of martyrdom or self-sacrifice, as we try to imitate Moses before the burning bush: we have to remove our sandals when standing on the "holy ground" of our encounter with the one who speaks to me (cf. Ex 3:5). Knowing how to listen is an immense grace, it is a gift which we need to ask for and then make every effort to practice.

Emails, text messages, social networks and chats can also be fully human forms of communication. It is not technology which determines whether or not communication is authentic, but rather the human heart and our capacity to use wisely the means at our disposal. Social networks can facilitate relationships and promote the good of society, but they can also lead to further polarization and division between individuals and groups. The digital world is a public square, a meeting-place where we can either encourage or demean one another, engage in a meaningful discussion or unfair attacks. I pray that this Jubilee Year, lived in mercy, "may open us to even more fervent dialogue so that we might know and understand one another better; and that it may eliminate every form of closed-mindedness and disrespect, and drive out every form of violence and discrimination" (Misericordiae Vultus, 23). The internet can help us to be better citizens. Access to digital networks entails a responsibility for our neighbour whom we do not see but who is nonetheless real and has a dignity which must be respected. The internet can be used wisely to build a society which is healthy and open to sharing.

Communication, wherever and however it takes place, has opened up broader horizons for many people. This is a gift of God which involves a great responsibility. I like to refer to this power of communication as "closeness". The encounter between communication and mercy will be fruitful to the degree that it generates a closeness which cares, comforts, heals, accompanies and celebrates. In a broken, fragmented and polarized world, to communicate with mercy means to help create a healthy, free and fraternal closeness between the children of God and all our brothers and sisters in the one human family.

- From the Vatican, 24 January 2016

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## 9 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LENT

**1. What is Lent?** According to the Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar Lent [is a liturgical season that] is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the paschal mystery both catechumens, by the various stages of Christian initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance.

**2. Where does the word "Lent" come from?** The Catholic Encyclopedia notes: The Teutonic word Lent, which we employ to denote the forty days' fast preceding Easter, originally meant no more than the spring season. Still it has been used from the Anglo-Saxon period to translate the more significant Latin term *quadagesima* (French *carême*, Italian *quaresima*, Spanish, *cuaresma*), meaning the "forty days", or more literally the "fortieth day". This in turn imitated the Greek name for Lent, *tessaraktoste* (fortieth), a word formed on the analogy of Pentecost (*pentekoste*), which last was in use for the Jewish festival before New Testament times.

**3. When does Lent begin and end?** The Universal Norms state: 28. The forty days of lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive. This mean that Lent begins at 12:01 a.m. on Ash Wednesday and runs to just before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on the evening of Holy Thursday. As soon as the Mass of the Lord's Supper starts, it's a new liturgical season: Triduum.

**4. Is Lent exactly forty days** long as currently celebrated? No, it's actually a little longer than forty days. The number is approximate, for spiritual purposes.

**5. Are the Sundays in Lent part of Lent?** Yes. See question 1 for the duration of Lent. It runs from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday. No exceptions are made for Sundays. Furthermore: 30. The Sundays of this time of year are called the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent [emphasis added]. The Sixth Sunday, on which Holy Week begins, is called, "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord."

**6. Why is the number forty significant?** Pope Benedict explains: Lent recalls the forty days of our Lord's fasting in the desert, which He undertook before entering into His public ministry. We read in the Gospel: "Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry" (Mt 4,1-2). Like Moses, who fasted before receiving the tablets of the Law (cf. Ex 34,28) and Elijah's fast before meeting the Lord on Mount Horeb (cf. 1 Kings19,8), Jesus, too, through prayer and fasting, prepared Himself for the mission that lay before Him, marked at the start by a serious battle with the tempter [Message for Lent 2009].

**7. What are the rules for fasting in Lent?** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast. The law of fast binds those who are from 18 to 59 years old, unless they are excused for a sufficient reason (e.g., a medical condition that requires more frequent food, etc.). According to the Church's official rules (as opposed to someone's personal summary of them): The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening, observing—as far as quantity and quality are concerned—approved local custom [Apostolic Constitution Paenitemini, Norms, III:2]. The system of mitigated fasting that is required by law thus allows for "one full meal" and "some food" in the morning and evening. The Church's official document governing the practice of fasting does not encourage scrupulous calculations about how much the two instances of "some food" add up to, though obviously each individually is less than a full meal, since only one of those is allowed.

**8. What are the rules for abstinence in Lent?** Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (as well as Good Friday). An exception is if a solemnity falls on a Friday, but no solemnities fall on Fridays in 2013, so all Fridays are days of abstinence. The law of abstinence binds those who are 14 years old or older. According to the Church's official rules: The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat [Paenitemini, Norms III:1].

**9. Do you have to give up something for Lent?** If you do, can you have it on Sundays? The traditional custom of giving up something for Lent is voluntary. Consequently, if you give something up, you set the parameters. If you choose to allow yourself to have it on Sundays as to promote joy on this holy day, that is up to you.

## ENGAGEMENTS OF BISHOP FEBRUARY - 2016

1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	10. 30 am 6.30 pm	1. Fresher's Day at St. Joseph Dental college of Nursing 2. Mass at Allipalli
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue		1. <b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b> 4.00 pm 2. Episcopal Consecration of Bishop-elect, Msgr. T. Joseph Raja at Gunadala, Vijayawada
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	10.30 am 5.00 pm	1. Priestly Ordinations of Ofm Capuchin Brothers at Avutapalli 2. St. Francis Xavier E.M School day at Rallakunta
4 <sup>th</sup> Thu		<b>Occupied</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Fri	10.30 am	Blessing of sacred Heart parish church & Confirmation at Elurupadu
6 <sup>th</sup> Sat	10.30 am	Priestly ordinations at St. Benedictine monatery, Naguladevunipadu
7 <sup>th</sup> Sun	11.30 am	Closing of the Jubilee year of St. Lucy's School at Janampet
8 <sup>th</sup> Mon	3.00 pm	2. Annual day of sports-meet of Nirmala E.M.School at Nirmalagiri
9 <sup>th</sup> Tue	10.30 am	Chapel blessing at Venkatapuram of Borrampalem parish
10 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.30 am 6.30. pm	1. Mass at Gunadala, Vijayawada ( <b>Ash Wednesday</b> ) 2. Opening ceremony of the year of Mercy at St. Carmelite Bhavan (OCD) at Janampet
11 <sup>th</sup> Thu		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> Fri		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Sat	9.30-12.30 pm 3.00-5.00 pm	Meeting for the Principles of RCM Schools Meeting for the Teachers of RCM Schools
14 <sup>th</sup> Sun		Meeting with the Writers at Hyderabad
15 <sup>th</sup> Mon - 18 <sup>th</sup> Thu		TCBC Meeting at Hyderabad
19 <sup>th</sup> Fri		<b>Not Available</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> Sat		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> Sun	9.30 am 10.30 am	Grotto blessing at Gandigudem of Tadikalapudi Parish Mass for the inauguration of Naveena of Lourdhu matha feast at Tadikalapudi Parish
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	10.30 am	International formatters meeting conducted by St. Peter's Province, (MF) & Mass at Allipalli
23 <sup>rd</sup> Tue		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> Wed	7.00 pm	1. <b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b> 2. Infant Jesus Shrine Feast at Dondapudi
25 <sup>th</sup> Thu		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> Fri	5.00 pm	St Joseph EM High School day at Pandirimamidigudem
27 <sup>th</sup> Sat		<b>BISHOP'S OFFICE</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> Sun	10.00 am	Jubilee Tower & village Feast at Vatluru Parish
29 <sup>th</sup> Mon	11.00 am	Chapel blessing at Pinkanametta of Vegeswarapuram

## TENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS OF BISHOP IN MARCH-2016

1 <sup>st</sup> Tue	6.00 pm	Blessing of Cathedral Church at Khammam
1 <sup>st</sup> Tue - 9 <sup>th</sup> Wed		CBCI Meeting at Bangalore
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	800 am	St. Joseph's Feast Mass at Dental college
	10.30 am	St. Joseph's Feast Mass at Nagunidevunipadu
	4.30 pm	Golden Jubilee of Nirmala Sisters at Jangareddigudem
22 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Clergy Recollection</b>
	<b>5.00 pm</b>	<b>Chrism Mass at Cathedral</b>
28 <sup>th</sup> Mon	5.30 pm	Flag hosting & Mass at Nirmalagiri shrine

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### COMMUNICATIONS

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#### IN GRATITUDE FOR THE DIOCESAN CELEBRATION AT JANAMPET

Dear and Rev. Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

We had the diocesan celebration of the Year of Consecrated Life and the Year of Mercy on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, along with Mahimagiri Festival at Janampet. I am very happy to note that it was well organized and executed. I sincerely thank the Priests and Religious who came from various parts of the diocese to participate in this celebration; it was a great gathering! The celebration helped us—the Bishop, the Priests and the Religious—to reflect together with the help of a talk, to pray together at the adoration, to ask pardon together at the penitential rite, to celebrate together the Eucharist, and to share the meal together in unity. Many hands were at work behind this successful celebration. I thank every one of them: the Rev. Fr. Thota Gabriel, VG, Rev. Fr. Babu George, Chancellor, diocesan unit of CRI, the religious houses of Mariapuram Campus at Janampet, and in a very special way, Rev. Fr. Johnson Puthenpurackal, OFMCap and Rev. Fr. Cherian Scaria, OFMCap, along with the community of Vianney College, who tirelessly worked for the success of this celebration.

May the merciful Lord bless all of you!

**+ Jaya Rao Polimera**

#### CHRISM MASS CUM MONTHLY RECOLLECTION - 2016

Chrism Mass & monthly recollection, for the Pastoral Clergy of the Diocese will be held on March 22, 2016, (Holy Tuesday). Recollection will begin with a talk at 9.30 a.m. in the Bishop John Memorial Hall. The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 6.00 p.m. in Amalodbhavi Cathedral, Eluru.

The Chrism Mass reminds us of our oneness in Christ through Baptism and its holy anointing made possible by the ministry of the Bishop and his Priests. It's also a key moment in which the unity of the Bishop with his Priests (together, they form the presbyterate) is manifested and *renewed*. All the Priests of the diocese and the Religious are expected to take part in the recollection and Chrism Mass during which the Oils will be blessed. Whenever the Holy Oils are used in a diocese, the

ministry of the Bishop who consecrated them is symbolically present. During the liturgy, the entire assembly is called to *renew* their Baptismal promises; Deacons and Priests also renew their vow of obedience to the local Bishop and their commitment to serve God's people.

Please inform the parishioners about the Chrism Mass and encourage the participation of the Religious and laity, in the liturgy of that day.

*"The bishop is to be considered as the high priest of his flock, from whom the life in Christ of his faithful is in some way derived and dependent.*

*Therefore **all should hold in great esteem the liturgical life of the diocese** centered around the bishop, especially in his cathedral church; they must be convinced that the pre-eminent manifestation of the Church consists in the full active participation of all God's holy people in these liturgical celebrations, especially in the same Eucharist, in a single prayer, at one altar, at which there presides the bishop surrounded by his college of priests and his ministers.*

- Vatican II - CONSTITUTION ON THE SACRED LITURGY (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*)  
SOLEMNLY PROMULGATED BY HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI ON DECEMBER 4, 1963

+ **Jaya Rao Polimera**

**Monthly Recollections – A humble reminder:** As informed earlier, the monthly recollections will be conducted at the diocesan and vicariate level alternatively, i.e., once in two months at the diocesan level and during the other months at the vicariate level. Monthly recollection for February 2016 will be conducted vicariate-wise. The Vicars Forane are expected to arrange the recollections on convenient dates. I sincerely appreciate all the Vicars Forane for arranging the vicariate level recollections in their respective vicariates.

### **Nirmalagiri Feast dates changed**

As all of us know, Holy Week, which commemorates the Passion of Christ, falls during March 20-26, 2016, which exactly comes during the Feast days of Nirmalagiri, this year the Nirmalagiri Feast will be celebrated from April 3-6, 2016. Please inform your faithful about this change. Soon the pamphlets and related information will be furnished to you from Rev. Fr. Rayappa Koppula, Director of the shrine.

### **FELICITATION TO THE JUBILERIANS WORKING IN THE DIOCESE OF ELURU**

Indeed it's a great honour to congratulate and felicitate the Jubilerians. As in the previous years, His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera will felicitate the Jubilerians, who have celebrated their Silver or Golden Jubilees in 2016, at Nirmalagiri Shrine, on April 6, 2016. The concerned superiors of the Religious houses are requested to give the names of the jubilerians to Rev. Fr. Emmanuel, Procurator, before March 25, 2016.

### **FROM THE PROCURATOR'S OFFICE**

As, the current financial year (2015-2016) will come to an end by March 31, 2016, in a couple of days, I request all those who have received money from the diocese to submit the statement of accounts supported by bills and vouchers systematically for the projects each project separately and other payments received before April 2016.

1. Under the provisions of Indian Stamp Act, 1899 and Rules, 1925, revenue stamp worth Rs. 1/- is required to be affixed on vouchers for all payments in excess of Rs. 5000/-
2. All vouchers / bills / invoices supported by receipt are to be obtained in the name of the institution or parish, instead of personal name.
3. Purchase of vehicle or land are to be registered in the name of the society only and not in the personal name and copy of the registered document should be sent to Bishops' House.
4. Any enquiry or notice issued by the income tax department has to be handled cautiously since the Bishop's House is filing the return of income with the department every year, each Priest or institution is responsible for the amount taken from Bishop's House and should give clarification to concerned income tax authorities.
5. **This is to inform to those who received project/money from: Stefaine, action Mision und Leprahilfe, Schiefbahn, Hochstr – 14, 47877 Willich, Germany.** You are earnestly requested to submit the completion report/bills to this agency immediately. Unless all the completion reports are submitted from the diocese, agency strongly said that they will not support any project of the diocese in the future.

As it is affecting the whole diocese at large, if the concerned Priest/institute fails to submit the report in given period of time, no further projects will be entertained by them. Kindly take note of it. Thank you.

6. **Holy Cross Parish, Jalipudi, offers 360 Masses to the Diocese.** The diocese sincerely thanks Rev. Fr. Babu George, Parish Priest & Chancellor and his people for making a difference by offering Masses to the diocese. We encourage the major parishes of the diocese and the shrines to come forward and make difference in supporting the diocese.

*- Fr Emmanuel Tatapudi, Procurator*

OCD Monastery, Janampet, to make available  
**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION &  
 PERSONAL COUNSELING IN JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**  
 from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost

***"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Lk; 6:3)***

As we have started the Jubilee year of Mercy, with the permission of His Lordship Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, St. Edith Stein Carmel Bhavan, (OCD College/Monastery) is planning to have our monastery church door to be opened for those who are willing to have the Sacrament of Reconciliation and personal counseling for laity as well as Religious. We start this Holy programme from the day of Ash Wednesday (10<sup>th</sup> Feb) to the Solemnity of Pentecost 2016.

Our Priests will be available in the Church without fail from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm for the above mentioned programme.

**N.B.:** Most welcome if any priest who would like to render their service along with us during these days, please contact us in advance.

**Contact:** Fr. Mathew, Ocd - 9440552735, Fr. Michael, Ocd - 9440095670, Fr. Philip, Ocd - 9494972224  
 - Fr. Mathew, Superior, St. Edith Stein Carmel Bhavan, Janampet

**ANNUAL RETURNS:** Annual Return forms are available at Bishop's House. Parish Priests are requested to collect the forms and send them to the Bishop's House at the earliest. Kindly follow the previous year record in order to be consistent for the present year. Your delay in sending the forms is creating great inconvenience to us. Kindly remember if you forget to send them completely, it affects the whole diocesan record. Kindly send them as soon as possible. Ignore if already submitted.

**FR. REDAELLI PIME, SCHOLARSHIPS will be distributed on Feb. 14, 216:** Fr. Redaelli, PIME, Educational Society (Regd.) is offering Rs. 2,000/- as scholarship to two poor and deserving Catholic students of professional courses (MBA, MCA, MBBS, B.E, B.Tech etc.) of your parish. Disbursals will be on 14.02.2016 SUNDAY, at 4.00 p.m. at the Bishop's House, ELURU and on every Sunday at 10.00 am at GOLLAPUDI. NO DISBURSALS AFTER 29TH Feb. 2016. Please pray for the good health of 94 year old Fr. Redaelli PIME, now in Rancio, PIME Home for the Aged Priests, Italy.  
- Fr. M. Balaswamy, President

**Diocesan Vocation camp:** The Eluru Diocesan vocation camp for those who have completed X Class, Intermediate and Degree will be conducted from 18<sup>th</sup> April Morning to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at St. John's Minor Seminary, Pinakadimi! The prospective candidates are invited to attend the camp with the following certificates:

1. Parents' Catholic Marriage, 2. Baptism certificate, 3. The Parish Priest's recommendation letter.

The candidates with previous seminary history (ex-seminarians) are not eligible for admission. All the parish Priests are hereby requested to kindly announce about this vocation camp in your respective parishes as and encourage the young boys to opt for the vocation to diocesan Priesthood. Kindly encourage the potential candidates from your parish to attend the camp.

For further details, please contact: St. John's Minor Seminary, Pinakadimi. Thanking you and wishing you a Blessed and fruitful Lenten season!

- Fr. Inje Paul, Rector, St. John's Minor Seminary, Pinakadimi

### **Divine Mercy Shrine, Jubilee Nagar to observe a day of prayer for ALL THE SISTERS IN THE DIOCESE**

Dear Sisters, in the backdrop of the extraordinary jubilee year of Mercy, the Divine Mercy Shrine at Jubileenagar is organizing a day's programme on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. Being a holiday, I believe that Sisters working in educational institutions also can avail of this opportunity. Fr. Jwannes Reddy, Pallottine, from Hyderabad will be animating the participants. Fr. Jwannes is known for his counseling skills and he will be available for counseling in the afternoon while, Fr. Bhaskar will handle the post lunch sessions.

<b>Programme:</b>	11.30 am	II session	
9.30 am	Arrival and Coffee	12.30 pm	Lunch
10.00 am	1st session	1.30 pm	III session
11.00 am	Break	3.00 pm	Concluding session
		3.30 pm	Tea and disperse

Looking forward to inviting you to this extraordinary programme in this extraordinary jubilee year,  
Yours fraternally.

- Fr. P. Bala, Director, Divine Mercy Shrine, Jubileenagar

1. **Rev. Fr. Bosco Rajendra, after a miraculous healing is back** to Vianney Home on January 19, 2016. We sincerely appreciate for all your valuable prayers.

2. Mr. Bandi Showry due to severe brain hemorrhage passed away during the early hours of January 20, 2016 at Care Hospital, Hyderabad. The last rites were performed on January 21, 2016, at 3.30 pm in Gunadala cemetery. May his soul rest in peace!

## **Heart felt Condolences**

1. Heart felt condolences to Rev. Fr. Pasala Leeno, Parish Priest, Lourdhu Matha Shrine, Tadikalapudi, at the sad demise of his eldest Brother Mr.Papaiaya, who passed away on January 8, 2016, at Emjala, Mariapuram, Hyderabad. He was 85. May his soul rest in peace!

Express your condolences to Fr. Leeno Pasala: 9550639328, 9000122574, Email: pasala\_leeno@rediffmail.com

2. Heart felt condolences to Rev. Fr. Ethakota Jeevarathnam, Assistant parish Priest, Nirmalagiri, at the sad demise of his father Mr. Ethakota Satyanandam, who passed away on January 19, 2016. He was 65. The last rites were performed on January 20, 2016, at Komaragiri.

Express your condolences to Fr. Jeevarathnam: Cell: 9493476185, E mail: frjeevaeluru@gmail.com

3. Heart felt condolences to Mr. B. Ramprasad, our accountant, at the sad demise of his mother Mrs. Vedavathi, who passed away at Eluru on January 22, 2016. She was 92.

Express your condolences to Mr. Ramprasad: cell: 9246208288, E-mail: ramprasadeluru@gmail.com

May their souls rest in peace!

## **PREVIOUS AND NEW PROVINCIAL TEAMS OF FCC SAN THOM PROVINCE ELURU**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Provincial Synaxis of the Franciscan Clarist Congregation held at San Thom Provincial House, Eluru elected the new Provincial Team on 9th December 2015.

Provincial Superior - Rev. Sr. Joyce Treasa

Asst. Provincial Superior - Rev. Sr. Ann Maria

Provincial Councillors: Rev. Sr. Reny, Rev. Sr. Jaise Maria, - Rev. Sr. Teena Kuriakose

Provincial Finance Officer - Rev. Sr. Elsy Jose

Provincial Secretary - Rev. Sr. Teena Maria

The first Provincial team headed by Rev. Sr. Celine Maria, the first provincial superior of San Thom Province, led the province and its members in the path of holiness and prosperity. We thank them for all the goodness and the selfless service they have rendered for the past three years and we wish all the best for the new team to carry out their responsibilities according to God's will and our Charism and the needs of the Church.

- Secretary, San Thom Province, Eluru

# Special days to remember in February 2016

**1. World day of the Sick** will be observed by the Church on February 11, 2016. Let's pray for all those involved in the health apostolate. In this Year of Mercy initiatives of this kind will be concrete acts of "Corporal works of Mercy" that the Holy Father is reminding us about.

**2. Holy Childhood Sunday** is observed on the second Sunday of February and this Year it falls on 14<sup>th</sup> February. This is one of the Pontifical Societies which helps the Holy Father in his work for the missions across the world. Through prayer and through contributions the Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood helps children in the mission countries of the world. Let us celebrate it in our diocese. Please encourage the faithful to contribute for Holy Childhood. Please send your contributions to the Procurators office.

## JYOTHIRMAI COLLECTIONS - 2015

Name	Place	Amount
1. Velakanni Matha Church,	Vegavaram Parish	500
2. Arokia Matha Church,	Korukollu Parish	1,000
3. Our Lady of Perpetual help Church,	Gundugolanu	500
4. Holy Cross Church	Razole	500

## Important communications from Divyavani Catholic TV

**దివ్యవాణి టీవి**  
**రామాంతపూర్, హైద్రాబాద్**

**ఫుల్టైమ్ సిబ్బంది కావాలను.**

కథోలిక బైబిలు గ్రంథము, ప్రార్థనలు, ఆరాధనక్రమము తెలిసి, అంకితభావం వైపుణ్యం గలవారు (కథోలిక, కథోలికేతరులు) దివ్యవాణి టీవి ఛానల్ లో ఫుల్టైమ్ సిబ్బందిగా పనిచేయుటకు కావాలను.

**వీడియో ఎడిటర్**

విద్యార్హత : ఏదైన బ్యాచిలర్ డిగ్రీ  
అనుభవం : వీడియో ఎడిటింగ్ లో తగినంత సాఫ్ట్వేర్ పరిజ్ఞానం కలిగి ఉండాలి. Final Cut Pro లో కనీసం రెండు సంవత్సరాల అనుభవం తప్పనిసరి. గ్రాఫిక్స్ లో అనుభవం ఉంటే ప్రాధాన్యం ఉంటుంది.

**రచయిత/ నిర్మాతలు**

విద్యార్హత : ఏదైన బ్యాచిలర్ డిగ్రీ  
అనుభవం : చక్కని భాషా పరిజ్ఞానం కలిగి, సీరియల్స్ / డాక్యుమెంటరీలు / సోషల్ యాడ్స్ / వ్రాయుటలో కనీసం ఐదు సంవత్సరాలు

**కెమెరామెన్/ కెమెరా ఆపరేటర్**

విద్యార్హత : ఏదైన బ్యాచిలర్ డిగ్రీ  
అనుభవం : టీవీ సీరియల్స్ / డాక్యుమెంటరీలు / సోషల్ యాడ్స్ / సాంగ్స్ చిత్రీకరణలో కనీసం మూడు సంవత్సరాలు

**ఆసక్తిగలవారు మీ పూర్తి వివరాలతో వెంటనే సంప్రదించండి**

**Production Manager**  
**Divyavani TV Centre**  
4-97, St. John's Regional Seminary Campus  
Ramanthapur, Hyderabad - 500013, TS.  
Phone 040 - 27207733  
e-mail: divyavani.s.com@gmail.com

Dates  
Feb-13-19  
2016

**షోడేడే**  
**మనసారా**

కథోలిక సూతన గాయనీ గాయకులకు సుపర్నాటకాశం  
**రండి... ఆలపించండి... దేవుని స్తుతింపండి**  
ఆపాత మధుర భృగజాగీతాల భవనరక్షణం  
**యువ స్వరార్యం.**

Contact : 7893841636 Divyavani TV, St. John's Regional Seminary,  
Ramanthapur, Hyderabad.



**దివ్యవాణి tv**

### ఫిబ్రవరి 25,26,27 తేదీలలో దివ్యవాణి టీవి బైబిల్ క్విజ్

దివ్యవాణి టీ.వి. రామాంతపూర్, హైద్రాబాద్:

అతిత్వరలో లాంబింగ్ కు సిద్ధమవుతున్న తెలుగు కథోలికుల నుండర స్వస్థం 'దివ్యవాణి టీ.వి' వార ప్రసారాలలో భాగమైన బైబిల్ క్విజ్ తొలివిడత ఆడిషన్స్ ఏలూరు, విజయవాడ, గుంటూరు మేత్రాసనాలలో విజయవంతంగా ముగిసాయి.

జనవరి 27వ తేదీన బిషప్ జాన్ ములగడ మెమోరియల్ హాల్ ఏలూరు, బిషప్ గ్రాస్ హైస్కూల్ గుణ్డల విజయవాడ, సెయింట్ ఆన్స్ హైస్కూల్ భద్రత్పేట గుంటూరులో జరిగిన ఈ ఆడిషన్స్ లో మొత్తం 30 పాఠశాలలు పాల్గొనగా అందులో పాఠశాలకు ఇద్దరు విద్యార్థుల చొప్పున టాప్-16 పాఠశాలలో 32 మంది సోటీరాయలను ఎంపిక చేసామని, వీరికి తుది సోటీ ఈ నెల 25,26,27 తేదీలలో దివ్యవాణి టీ.వి. కేంద్రంలో నిర్వహిస్తున్న దివ్యవాణి టీ.వి. సి.ఇ.ఓ. ఫాదర్ ఉడుముల బాలశౌరీ తెలియజేశారు.

### మీడియా విద్యార్థులకు అపూర్వ అవకాశం

మీరు మీడియా విద్యార్థులా? కథోలికులా? అయితే అతి త్వరలో లాంబింగ్ కు సిద్ధమవుతున్న తెలుగు కథోలికుల నుండర స్వస్థం దివ్యవాణి టీవిలో ప్రసార కార్యక్రమాల్లో సీరియల్స్, సినిమా, డాక్యుమెంటరీలు, ఆరాధనలు, కల్చరల్ మొదలైన స్పెషల్ ప్రోగ్రాంలకు మీరు యాంకర్ షోహోస్ట్, రచయిత/ నిర్మాత, ఎడిటర్, గ్రాఫిక్స్ డిజైనర్, కెమెరామెన్, కెమెరా ఆపరేటర్ గా పనిచేయాలనుకుంటున్నారా? అయితే మీ పూర్తి వివరాలతో వెంటనే సంప్రదించండి.

మా చిరునామా:

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## Contributions to the Catholic Church - Parishes (Updated Till Feb. 2, 2016 only)

S.N.	Name	Village/ Institution	Mission Sunday	Peter Pence	Holy Childhood	Grandtotal
1.	St. Ann's Church	Manuru	2,500	500	550	3,550
2.	Infant Jesus Church	Dondapudi	4,000	500	500	5,000
3.	Infant Jesus Church	Nallagerla	9,000	500	500	10,000
4.	St. Anthony's Church	Ramannapalem	500	250	250	1,000
5.	Nirmala Matha Church	Srungavruksham	9,000	500	500	10,000
6.	Our Lady of Helth Church	Bhimadaole	10,000	1,000	1,000	2,000
7.	Catholic Church	Nagunidevupadu	2,000	250	250	2,500
8.	Sacred Heart Church	Vellachintalagudem	4,000	500	500	5,000
9.	Holy Rosary Church	Kamavarapukota	4,000	500	500	5,000
10.	Sacred Heart Church	Elurupadu	2,000	500	500	3,000
11.	Catholic Church	Kurukur	1,000	100	100	1,200
12.	Amalodbhavi Cathedral	Eluru	83,000	1,000	1,000	85,000
13.	St. Michael's Church	Pension Line, Eluru	1,000	500	500	2,000
14.	Holy Saviours' Church	Mogalturu	3,000	500	500	4,000
15.	St. Theresa's Church	T. Narsapuram	2,000	500	500	3,000
16.	St. Michael's Church	Mangisettigudem	2,000	500	500	3,000
17.	Our Lady of succour's Church,	Chintalapudi	3,000	500	500	4,000
18.	St. John the Baptist Church	Ponnamanda	1,500	500	200	2,000
19.	Our Lady of Perpetual help Church	Gundugolanu	4,500	500	500	5,500
20.	Divine Mercy Shrine	Jubilee nagar	13,000	1,000	1,000	15,000
21.	Holy Cross Church	Razole	6,000	1,000	500	7,500
22.	Godavari Mary Matha Shrine	Vegeswarapuram	4,000	500	500	5,000
23.	Holy Cross Church	Bhimavaram	25,000	1,000	1,000	27,000
24.	Mary Matha Shrine	Allipalli	25,639	2,000	5,000	32,639
25.	Our Lady of Fatima	Rallakunta	500	500	500	1,500
26.	Sacred Heart Church	Uppidi	4,000	500	500	5,000
27.	St. John the Baptist Church	Muktesvaram	4,000	500	500	5,000
28.	St. Lucy's Church	Nyayampalli	6,600	500	500	7,600
29.	St. Joseph's Church	I. Pangidi	3,000	300	200	3,500

## Contributions to the Catholic Church - Convents / Institutions (Updated Till Feb. 2, 2016 only)

S.N.	Name	Village/ Institution	Mission Sunday	Peter Pence	Holy Childhood	Grandtotal
1.	Vimala Hrudaya convent	Veeravasaram	500	250	250	1,000
3.	Aloysius Convent	Eluru	1,500	250	250	2,000
4.	St. Mary's School	Dondapudi	2,000	500	500	3,000
3.	St. Mary's Convent	Dondapudi	500	250	250	1,000
4.	St. Joseph Dental College	Pinakadidimi	9,000	500	500	10,000
5.	St. Mary's Hospital	Bhimavaram	5,000	500	500	6,000
6.	JMJ Convent	Thangellamudi	500	250	250	1,000
7.	MF Provincialate	NTR Colony	4,000	500	500	5,000
8.	St. Peters Prayer Hall	NTR Colony	4,000	500	500	5,000
9.	St. Dominican Community	Samaladivi	1,500	250	250	2,000
10.	St. Aloysius Convent	Akividu	2,500	250	250	3,000
11.	Fathima Convent	Fathimapuram	3,500	250	250	4,000
12.	St. Mary's High School	Bhimavaram	14,000	1,000	600	15,600
13.	Daughters of St. Cammilus	Tadepalligudem	4,000	500	500	5,000
14.	DC Sisters Convent	Thangellamudi	500	250	250	1,000
15.	St. Joseph, LRC	Thimmarajupalem	500	250	250	1,000
16.	Holy Cross Convent	Nidadavole	1,500	250	250	2,000
17.	Karuna care of support centre	Madhavaram	1,500	250	250	2,000
18.	Jeevandhara sisters	Vijayrai	3,000	500	500	4,000
19.	Amalodbhavi E.M.School	Ashoknagar	14,000	500	500	15,000
20.	Cluny Sisters	Razole	1,000	-	-	1,000
21.	St. Ann's Convent	Eluru	64,000	500	500	65,000

**1<sup>st</sup> Fri** 10.30 am blessed and inaugurated a new grotto and new Chapel at Kamujuvaripeta of Ambajipeta Parish

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sat** Bishop's Office

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sun** Occupied

**4<sup>th</sup> Mon** Bishop's Office

**5<sup>th</sup> Tue 6<sup>th</sup> Wed** 10.30 am blessed and inaugurated a new Chapel at Mamuduru of Attili Parish

**7<sup>th</sup> Thu** 11.00 am Celebrated Mass for the Closing of the year of consecrated life at Dondapudi, Nirmalagiri vicarite, 4.00 pm Annual day of St. Ann's E.M.H. School at Nidadavole

**8<sup>th</sup> Fri** 5.30 pm attended the Silver Jubilee celebrations of St. Augustine School at Pedapadu

**9<sup>th</sup> Sat** Attended Regional youth council meeting & Election at Birday, Hyderabad

**10<sup>th</sup> Sun** Attended Regional youth council meeting & Election at Birday, Hyderabad

**11<sup>th</sup> Mon** Bishop's Office

**12<sup>th</sup> Tue** 10.30 am celebrated Mass for the feast of Ephiphany at Chiluvuru, Guntur diocese, 5.30 pm attended the Silver Jubilee celebrations of St. Lucy School at Janmpet

**13<sup>th</sup> Wed** Bishop's Office

**14<sup>th</sup> Thu** Bishop's Office

**15<sup>th</sup> Fri** 10.00 am participated and Preached for the Silver Jubilee Mass of Rev. Fr. Injamala Michael (MC), at JMJ E.M. School, Thangellamudi, Eluru, 3.00-4.00 pm attended Youth Meeting at SSC Hall, Eluru

**16<sup>th</sup> Sat** Blessed a wedding at Warangal

**17<sup>th</sup> Sun** 10.30 am Bishop's office

**18<sup>th</sup> Mon** Bishop's Office, 3.30 pm conducted Extraordinary-meeting for the Consulters and Vicars Forane, 6.00 pm-7.30 pm participated in the Eucharistic Adoration conducted to the Priests, Sisters, Brothers & Lay people of Eluru Vicariate in the Cathedral.

**19<sup>th</sup> Tue** Bishop's Office

**20<sup>th</sup> Wed** 10.00 am Celebrated funeral mass for the departed soul of Mr. Satyanand, the father of Fr. Jeevaratnam  
Ethakota, 4.00 pm Laid the Foundation stone for the community-hall cum Parish church at Mangissettigudem, 7.00 pm visited and expressed heartfelt condolences to the family members of Mr. Bandi Sowry on his death.

**21<sup>st</sup> Thu** 11.30 am Celebrated Jubilee Mass for St. Ann's Sisters, 5.30 pm attended St. Mary's School silver Jubilee at Kamavarapukopta

**22<sup>nd</sup> Fri** 9.00-12.30 pm Bishop's Office, 6.00 pm conferred the Priestly & Diaconate Ordinations at SFS Study house, Janampet

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sat** Occupied, 3.30 pm visited Nirmalagiri shrine

**24<sup>th</sup> Sun** 4.00 pm participated in the closing ceremony of the year of consecrated life at Vijayawada

**25<sup>th</sup> Mon** 9.00-12.30 pm Bishop's Office, 6.30 pm celebrated Mass for St. Francis De Sales Feast at Attili Parish

**26<sup>th</sup> Tue** 9.00 – 12.00 pm Occupied, 2.45 pm onwards diocesan level celebration of Year of Consecrated Life and Divine Mercy, along with Mahimagiri Feast. At 6.30 pm officiated at the Holy Mass at Janampet

**27<sup>th</sup> Wed** Bishop's Office

**28<sup>th</sup> Thu** Bishops office.

**29<sup>th</sup> Fri** 6.00 pm conferred Priestly Ordination to MSFS Brothers at Alirajpet, Hyderabad

**30<sup>th</sup> Sat** Occupied

**31<sup>st</sup> Sun** Occupied

## Diocesan-level Celebration of Consecrated Life and Year of Mercy Along with Mahimagiri Festival at Janampet

It was a combined celebration at Janampet on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016: the Year of Consecrated Life and the Jubilee Year of Divine Mercy, along with Mahimagiri Festival. The combination was meaningful and relevant. The year-long celebration at the parish and vicariate levels reached a climax on 26<sup>th</sup>



January at Mariapuram Campus in Janampet. The celebration started at 02.45 pm with a Recollection-Talk for the bishop, priests and religious of the diocese of Eluru on “Waking up the World by Proclaiming Divine Mercy” by Fr. Johnson Puthenpurackal, OFM Cap in the tastefully decorated Vijnananilayam Auditorium. The talk was followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Penitential Rite, conducted by Fr. Joseph Keeprath, OFM Cap. After tea and refreshments, all went in procession to the Mahimagiri Grounds with the

rhythmic accompaniment of drums, praying of Divine Mercy, and singing of hymns. Rev. Fr. Daniel from Kaikalur Parish gave an inspiring talk to the public on Divine Mercy.

At 06.30 pm His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera together with more than 100 Priests celebrated the Solemn Festal Eucharist on the meaningfully decorated stage at the Mahimagiri Grounds, well adorned with white tapestry on the top, and brightly lit by colourful lights. The choir, chosen from among the brothers and sisters of the campus, gave added beauty to the celebration. In his sermon, Bishop exhorted to take inspiration from Mother Mary who is a perfect example of sensitivity and tenderness to others, and thus to live a life of merciful love in our individual selves, in our communities, in our parishes and in our diocese. After the Holy Eucharist, the various communities of the campus put up a cultural programme, consisting of a skit on Bishop John Mulagada, dances, mime, etc.

The celebration was gradually planned by a diocesan committee with representatives from different groups and institutions, and executed by different sub-committees from the CRI and from Mariapuram Campus. The whole function of this diocesan celebration was supervised by Fr. Johnson Puthenpurackal, OFM Cap, President of Vijnananilayam and Fr. Cherian Scaria, OFM Cap, Rector of Vianney College. The Seminarians of Vianney College under the guidance of its rector did a marvelous work, planning all the details and executing them with perfection.

The celebration was organized in such a way that it is intended to **wake up our diocese** by a life of renewal in the light of Pope Francis’ call for **merciful love**. That is the reason why the celebration created an opportunity to listen, to pray, to ask pardon, to celebrate the Eucharist, and to share in the agape. Let us hope and pray that all of us in the diocese be ‘touched’ by the Mercy of the Father.

- Fr. Johnson Puthenpurackal, OFM Cap, (For the Organizing Committee)

## NEW CHAPEL BLESSED AT KAMUJUVARIPETA OF AMBAJIPETA PARISH

It was a long awaited day of happiness and joy for the people of Kamujuvaripeta, a substation of Ambajipeta parish, which fulfilled on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016. Their joy was doubled with the arrival of His



Lordship Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera on the very first day of the New Year – 2016! His Lordship has blessed the newly built chapel which is dedicated to Christ the King. It was by Rev. Fr. Mathew Kunnumpuram who has brought up the structure of the Church and it is now Rev. T.P. Prasad who has brought to its completion with all the interior and external elevations and decorations. The celebration began with a procession towards the new chapel. His Lordship has blessed first a newly built Grotto of Our Lady and then blessed and inaugurated Christ the King

Church. For the celebration of Holy Eucharist Rev. Fr. Maria Elias, Rev. Fr. Joseph, CM, Rev. Fr. T.P. Prasad concelebrated and Rev. Fr. Jaya Raj, CM, Rev. Fr. Balaswamy, SJ, Rev. Fr. Pasquali, Vicar Forane, Rev. Fr. Kurram Joseph and other Priests joined the celebration. The parish Priest along with the parishioners felicitated His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera for his valuable presence and New Year blessings.

- Fr. T.P. Prasad, Parish Priest & Correspondent

## Diocesan Youth Center Conducts Leadership Training Programme

On January 15, 2016, the Eluru Diocesan Youth Center, under the guidance of His Lordship Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, conducted a day of leadership training programme for the youth at Bishop John Memorial Hall, Eluru. All those who are associated with the youth ministry and their programmes, will definitely value the significance of the day. The meeting started at 1:00 pm. Speaking to the 186 participants Rev. Fr. Charles, Youth Director, explained how the present generation could maintain their personal relation with God.



Successful life stories always give inspiration. Mr. P. Raj Rakesh, manager of Canara Bank, a successful youth leader, who is also a fulltime youth member of our diocese, witness in his personal experience with God, achievements and failures. It was a very touching and impressive sharing. The second session was taken by Rev. Fr. Dumpala Bala, Regional Youth Director, TCBC. He explained about the leadership in the Bible, based on Luke 24:15. The third talk was given by Rev. Fr. K. Balthazar, Administrator, St. Joseph Dental College, Duggirala, where he exhorted the rights of SC, ST & BC youth in the present society. The 4<sup>th</sup> talk was given by Most Rev. Jaya Rao Polimera, Chairman, TCBC Commission for Youth. He told youth ministry is a blessed ministry and youth leaders should have very powerful leadership qualities to carry this ministry. Mr. Abraham Master had given the talk about a Chinese proverb. A journey of thousand miles starts with a single step. He advised the youth to grow in faith and obey the parents which helps them to shine in their studies. Our youth director Rev. Fr. Charles proposed the vote of thanks to everybody. We sincerely thank all the parish Priests who cooperated and collaborated to send the youth for this program and made it grand success. Final blessing was given by Rev. Fr. D. Bala, Regional Youth Director.

- Fr. K. Charles, Youth Director

## The Year of Consecrated Life comes to an end in the Diocese of Eluru

*Consecrated life is at the very heart of the Church as a decisive element for her mission, since it 'manifests the inner nature of the Christian calling' and the striving of the whole Church as Bride towards union with her one Spouse".*

(Vita Consecrata 3)

The celebrations of the Year of Consecrated Life (Nov. 30, 2014 to Feb. 2, 2016) came to an end in the Diocese of Eluru. Our sincere congratulations and appreciations to all those who worked hard in your own way towards this noble cause.

Let us remember the words of our Holy Father "I am counting on you 'to wake up the world', since the distinctive sign of consecrated life is prophecy," Nov. 29, 2014. We were invited by the pope to remember the past with gratitude, to live the present with passion, and to embrace the future with hope. Vicariate level celebration has revitalized our zeal and commitment. It's given the Church an opportunity to look at the gift of consecrated life and to be grateful for it. Each of us has a call from God, and discovering God's call for us will bring joy to our life.

A special note of thanks to all the Vicars Foranes for systematically observing the YCL in their respective vicariates. Illuminare Omnes is happy to present the reports of the celebrations of the vicariates. Hence, other vicariates have already conducted and the reports have been published in the previous issues.

### 1. Concluding celebration of the Year of Consecrated Life in Nirmalagiri

**Vicariate:** Nirmalagiri Vicariate has concluded the Year of Consecrated Life celebrations at Infant Jesus Shrine, Dondapudi on January 7th 2016. The program started with a talk about the value of the Consecrated Life today by Rev Fr. G. Charles, HGN, Provincial, St. John Paul II Province, Nidadavole. There were about 20 Priests and 30 Sisters and around 1200 people. His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera



reached the venue and celebrated the Holy Mass at 11.00am. During the homily he gave good message to all that exhorted the Consecrated people and the people's role in the Catholic Church. He expressed his joy and appreciated Rev. Fr. Ratna Raju, Vicars Forane and vicariate Priests and Nuns for actively taking part in all the Church activities. Nirmalagiri Vicariate felicitated the Bishop for his valuable presence and His Lordship honoured all the Priests and superior Sisters including Catechists for their wonderful service.

Rev. Fr. Ratna Raju, Vicars Forane, thanked everybody present. A special thanks to Rev. Fr. James, OFM Conv, Superior, Rev. Fr. Jerry, Parish Priest, Dondapudi, who have taken the major role of the celebration and created a festive look in the campus and made all the arrangements for this concluding celebration. The program ended at 2.00pm with delicious food served for all.

- Fr. E. Jeeva Ratnam, Secretary of the Vicariate

## 2. Jangareddygudem Vicariate observed the Closing celebrations of the Year of Consecrated Life at Tadikalapudi

Pope Francis' vision for proclaiming the Year of Consecrated Life was to call forth a renewal, remembrance, and hope for the future of consecrated life. Jangareddygudem Vicariate observed



the Closing celebrations of the Year of Consecrated Life at Tadikalapudi on January 23, 2016, at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Tadikalapudi.

The celebration started lighting of the lamp at 2.30pm. It was time for all of us to be grateful for being called for the consecrated life. It is important that the Church recognizes their service to the Church. After the Mass there were exclusive talks on Consecrated Life. Rev. Fr. Pasala Leeno, Vicars Forane, thanked all the

Fathers, Brothers and Sisters for their active participation.

- Fr. Inti Xavier, Vicariate Secretary

## Cathedral Vicariate Celebrates the Closing of the Year of Consecrated Life

As we know that the purpose of the YCL is to make a grateful remembrance of the recent past" while embracing "the future with hope", throughout the year, we have reflected on the Consecrated

Life and our responsibility 'Wake up the World, Cathedral Vicariate observed the closing celebrations of the Year of Consecrated Life at Amalodbhavi Parish, Ashoknagar, Eluru on January 20, 2016.

Rev. Fr. Dr. Inje Paul, Vicars Forane explained the participants the key elements of the concluding celebrations of the year of Consecrated life. The day began with the prayer meeting prepared by Rev. Sr. Pushpa SAP along with Mrs. Fatima and some students from the



St. Theresa's Degree College. Rev. Sr. John Paul, CSA, has welcomed the speakers with striking introduction. Rev. Fr. Ravi Sekhar SJ as the main speaker has highlighted the heights and depths and present scenario of the universal, national, regional Local levels and limitations of Consecrated Life with practical interest and the modern martyrs of our nation. Mr. D. Abraham, as the second speaker, representative from the laity, recalling the good sentiments of the Catholic faith appreciated the dedicated service of the pioneers of the Eluru mission.

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Thota Gabriel, Vicar General. In his introduction he emphasized the service to the Lord and carrying his message it's not only an invitation for us it is the option that we have opted for this Consecrated Life. All the Vicariate Clergy and the people of God

have felicitated their Jubilerians to the felicitation dais to show their bounded union of serving the Lord. Rev. Fr. G. Bala showry has conducted the felicitation program. A festive meal was served to all the participants, wherein the Minor Seminarians of Guanelli congregation - Koppakak and St. Johns Minor Seminarians- Pinakadimi service was very much appreciated. The participants enjoyed sharing to one another their experiences.

A special note of thanks to Rev. Fr. Moses, Parish Priest, Ashoknagar & the Little Sisters of Christ and other communities in Ashok Nagar, who magnanimously decorated the hall and the surroundings.

- Fr. Jojappa, VF Secretary and PP at Vampadu

## **St. Mary's E.M. School, Kamavarapukota, celebrates Silver Jubilee**

Kamavarapukota Jan. 21: The trumpet sounded loud at St. Mary's English Medium High School, Kamavarapukota, as it was the Silver jubilee of the school to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. This fabulous day was graced with the esteemed presence of His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera, Rev.



Dr. Sr. Little Flower, Superior General, MSMI, a few prominent Government officials, eminent political leaders Smt. Peethala Sujatha, Minister for women empowerment & Child welfare, Rev. Fr. G. Moses, DGM of RCM Schools Eluru Diocese, Rev. Fr. Inti Xavier Parish Priest and some more Fathers and Sisters.

The St. Mary's EM School, Kamavarapukota, primarily plays the vital role of a facilitator, acting as catalysts for the development of the rural area and promotion of value based

education to all, right from its inception for the past 25 glorious years of life. His Lordship extended a gorgeous, vibrant, vivacious, thought provoking and typical message of the essence of the existence of Missionary School and the crucial role of a teacher in the character formation of a child. In fact the integrity of knowledge had elevated and enlightened us very much by the message of the Lordship. We had the great privilege to felicitate our Bishop and the other dignitaries.

**Golden Jubilee Celebration of Rev. Sr. Josia, MSMI:** It was a double delight for us that on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan. Golden Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Josia was celebrated at St. George Regional House, Kamavarapukota. Rev. Fr. V.C. Abraham was the main Celebrant along with 14 Priests con celebrated the thanks giving Mass. These amazing days were culminated with thanking the God Almighty for all that He has been to us and we dispersed.

- Rev. Sr. Lisa Jose, Regional Superior

### Preaching Tip

If you try to say too much, you end up saying nothing at all.

## Hearty Congratulations to the Silver Jubilerian, Rev. Fr. Injamala Michel

The Diocese of Eluru congratulates on the sacerdotal silver jubilee of Rev. Fr. Injamala Michel, Parish Priest, Gundugolanu and MC of the Diocese of Eluru. A successful youth director, the initiator



of Lenten Diksha in the diocese, long time Dy. General Manager of RCM Schools and presently the official MC (master of ceremonies) of the Diocese of Eluru, celebrated his silver jubilee on January 15, 2016, at Thangellamudi in the presence of His Lordship Jaya Rao Polimera, Fathers, Brothers, Sisters, family members and his well-wishers.

The guests of honour include Mr. R. Surya Rao, MLC of East & West Godavari Districts, Mr. B. Veera Raju, CRPF commander, Rajahmundry, Mr. Surendranath Choudari, Marketing Chairman and many local leaders. The jubilerian was felicitated by the dignitaries. The days programme was coordinated by Rev. Fr. Gnananandam, Parish Priest, Borrapalem and Gundugolanu parishioners. The jubilerian expressed his sentiments of gratitude to all those who supported him in his 25 years of Priestly journey.

## Pilgrimage in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

"Making pilgrimages to shrines is one of the most eloquent expressions of the faith of God's people and is a form of evangelization which needs to be increasingly promoted and valued." (Pope Francis, Jan. 28, 2016)

Taking inspiration from the words of our Holy Father, Cathedral parish, Eluru, made a pilgrimage to the important shrines of our diocese on January 16, 2016. There were 80 legion of Mary members participated in this event. We visited all the shrines and prayed in all the shrines. I thank Rev. Fr. Bala, director, divine mercy shrine, Jubileenagar, Rev. Fr. Maria Joji Rai, director, Allipalli shrine, Rev. Fr. Jesu Rajan, director, Prema Seva Nilayam ashram and Rev. Fr. G. David, director, Godavari Mary Matha shrine, Vegeswarapuram for their hospitality.



- Fr. Amman Raja, Parish Priest

Be kind to the unkind. Forgive the people who don't deserve it.  
Love unconditionally. Your actions reflect who you are.

## **A Grand Climax to the Year of the Consecrated life** (REGIONAL CRI LEVEL CELEBRATION)

The TCBC commission envisioned the concluding ceremony to be set in Andhra Loyola College, Fr. Devaiah Memorial Auditorium, Vijayawada on January 24, 2016. A galaxy of ecclesiastical luminaries, an estimated number of two thousand religious and a large number of lay Catholics descended to participate in the Regional celebration of the conclusion of the Year of the Consecrated Life.



The bishops on the dais lighted the Indian Lamp lead by Fr. Amal Raj, SJ, the President of the Regional CRI and Fr. Ravi Shekhar, SJ the CRI President of Vijayawada diocese at the opening ceremony in the morning while the Kaladarshini, Institute of Art and Culture of the Loyola College performed various dances to depict the significance of the Year of the consecrated life.

Let us rejoice at the gift of Consecrated Life to the Church and join in making this occasion a memorable event said Bishop Udumala Bala, chairman, TCBC commission for clergy and religious. He said "the event should not be termed as the conclusion of the year of the Consecrated life but must become the climax and the beginning of an ongoing celebration to reflect, to rededicate and reinvigorate and live the profound dimension of love."

Archbishop Thumma Bala, President of TCBC, conveyed to the assembly the greetings of the entire Telugu Church of the twin states. Praying religious become praying mothers to the humanity to care, love and soothe the broken hearts of the humanity, he said. Bishop M. D. Prakash of Nellore even brought out a CD of hymns dedicated to the memory of the Year of the Consecrated Life.

Along with the ATCRI President Fr. Amal Raj, His Grace Bishop Prakash, Archbishop of Vishakapatnam, honored Rev. Fr. Jojayya, a renowned Jesuit scripture scholar for his contribution to the Telugu spiritual literature and a life time dedication to the service of Preaching. The whole humanity is waiting for the merciful, stated Fr. Konda Joseph Kondala, MSFS who delivered the second thematic talk to the religious. Bishop Govindu Joji of Nalgonda and the Administrator of Vijayawada diocese conveyed his wishes to the gathering, congratulating the participants for the privileges and graces that God has bestowed on them during the year. His Grace Bishop Prakash, Archbishop of Vishakapatnam presided over the concluding Eucharistic Celebration and prayed for the religious.

The local schools presented dances at intervals to entertain the audience. Food was served to the participants at various counters and the event concluded with a note of benediction inaugurating the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy called by Pope Francis.

- Sr. Ernestine, SAP, CRI President, Diocese of Eluru

## **Appointment of the Auxiliary Bishop of the Eparchy of Kanjirapally**

The Synod of the Syro-Malabar Major Archiepiscopal Church, gathered at Mount St. Thomas, Kerala, having received prior Papal Assent, has canonically elected to the office of Auxiliary Bishop of the Eparchy of Kanjirapally, according to CCEO can. 184, Rev. Fr. Jose Pulickal, till now Syncellus of the same Eparchy, with special responsibility for Clergy Welfare. The Holy Father Pope Francis has assigned to the Auxiliary Bishop-Elect the Titular See of Lares. This provision was made public in Rome on Tuesday, 12th January, 2016, at noon local time, corresponding to 16:30 hours, Indian Standard Time.

Rev. Fr. Jose Pulickal was born on 3rd March, 1964, at Inchiyani, Kottayam District, Kerala. He was ordained priest on 1st January, 1990 for the Eparchy of Kanjirapally.

-CBCI, January 12, 2016

## **Raising of the Syro-Malankara Apostolic Exarchate in the United States of America to an Eparchy and appointment of its first Bishop**

His Holiness Pope Francis has raised the Syro-Malankara Apostolic Exarchate in the United States of America to an Eparchy, including Canada within its jurisdiction. The Holy Father has appointed as first Bishop of the Syro-Malankara Eparchy of St. Mary, Queen of Peace, of USA and Canada His Lordship Thomas Eusebius Naickamparambil, until now Exarch, transferring him from the titular See of Lares, and relieving him from his responsibility as Apostolic Visitor to Europe.

This provision was made public in Rome on Monday, 4th January, 2016, at noon local time, corresponding to 16:30 hours, Indian Standard Time.

### **SHORT TERM COURSES AT NISCORT: MAY 2016**

NISCORT: National Institute of Social Communications, Research and Training (A National Institution of CBCI)

The short term courses are aimed to build capacity and increase competence of educators, priests, religious and laity in the field of communication and media. Rich theoretical inputs, hands-on practical exercises, handouts and resource materials will be provided. Kindly see below the different short courses offered at NISCORT in May 2016.

To complete the admission process, kindly register your name by paying Rs. 2000/- to the bank account given below. The balance amount can be paid later.

COURSES	DURATION	Course Fee (With Food & Accommodation)
Basic Video Production	May 02 - 14, 2016	8,000/-
Creative Writing	May 02 - 07, 2016	5,000/-
Public Relations	May 09 - 14, 2016	5,000/-
Public Speaking	May 16 - 21, 2016	5,000/-

BANK DETAILS: NISCORT, A/C No. 0556053000002266, South Indian Bank, Indirapuram Branch, IFSC Code: SIBL0000556, Branch Code: 000556

For further details contact: NISCORT, A-2, Sector 1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad - 201 012, U.P  
Phone: 0120 – 2771050, Mobile: (0) 8130 496971, 73, 74, www.niscort.com

## **Police arrest 12 for violating anti-conversion law**

Twelve people were arrested and jailed, accused of violating a law restricting religious conversions in Madhya Pradesh. They were arrested on January 14 in Dahar village of the State's Dhar district and sent to jail the next day. Those imprisoned included a blind man and a mother with her three-year-old child. Seven people were released on bail on Jan. 17, according to Janu Bai, 35, one of the arrested.

"We did not know why we were arrested and sent to jail," Bai said after being released. She said the group follows the teachings of Jesus, but have not converted to Christianity, and had gathered at the home of Shankar Singh to celebrate the Hindu harvest festival of Makar Sankranti.

## **Church leaders debunk Hindu group's claims**

Church leaders in India want the government to investigate claims that a Hindu group converted 500,000 Christians and 250,000 Muslims to Hinduism in the past ten years. Pravin Togadia, leader of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), recently claimed the conversions were part of his organisation's ghar wapsi (homecoming) campaign, aimed at claiming back Hindus who became Christians and Muslims. The claim raises "serious questions" about the implementation of laws framed to stop forced conversions in the country, said Fr Gyanprakash Topno, spokesman of the Indian Catholic Bishops' conference.

## **Jihadists release 16 Christian hostages of Khabur**

The jihadists affiliated to the self-styled Islamic State (Daesh) released on January 14, 16 Syrian Christians who were part of the large group of hostages that they captured and deported on February 23, when the jihadi militias had carried out an offensive against the predominantly Christian Assyrian villages scattered along the Khabur valley river, in the northeastern Syrian province of Hassakè. Eight members of the group of released hostages are children. All appeared in decent condition. The Syrian Catholic Archbishop of Hassakè-Nisibis, Jacques Behnan Hindo, said, "The hostages released were left near the city of Tel Tamar, and from there, were able to reach their village of Tel Jazira."

## **Last year the 'worst in modern history for Christian persecution'**

Last year was the "worst year in modern history for Christian persecution," according to a report by a group that monitors violence against the faithful. North Korea tops the 'Open Doors 2016 World Watch List' of the most dangerous places to be a Christian, for the second year running. However, of the 50 worst countries to be a Christian, 35 have a problem with Islamic extremism, which "has risen to a level akin to ethnic cleansing," said the report. Iraq, part of which is in the hands of Islamic extremist group ISIS, is number two on the list.

## BIRTHDAYS - DIOCESAN PRIESTS

1. Rev. Fr. Kunnumpuram Mathew	01/02/1932	10. Rev. Fr. Inje Paul	15/02/1965
2. Rev. Fr. Boddu Francis	02/02/1979	11. Rev. Fr. Kauju Yesuratnam	20/02/1986
3. Rev. Fr. Gude Balthazar	03/02/1952	12. Rev. Fr. Dasari Vijaya Kumar	17/02/1969
4. Rev. Fr. Vellarankala Abraham	05/02/1936	13. Rev. Fr. Tullimelli Bilan Babu	21/02/1969
5. Rev. Fr. Kasse Thomas	10/02/1975	14. Rev. Fr. Deekollu Joseph Maria Raj	22/02/1973
6. Rev. Fr. Domathoti Nathaniel	11/02/1978		
7. Rev. Fr. Inti Xavier	11/02/1980	<b>Ordinations</b>	
8. Rev. Fr. Nirmalapathi Raju	14/02/1963	1. Rev. Fr. Naviti Maria Joji Kumar	02/02/1998
9. Rev. Fr. Penugumati Yesu	14/02/1987	2. Rev. Fr. Yeruva Marreddy	18/02/1980

I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that:  
then I realized that I am **SOMEBODY**.

It all begins in your mind.  
What you think you create.

### To Ponder : Give as you receive from God

A wealthy man pondered Jesus' teaching on giving and he was deeply depressed by the whole thing. He prayed and prayed that he might be able to accept the teaching, but the more he prayed, the sadder he became. One day, when he was near despair, an angel came to comfort him. "Why are you so sad?" the angel asked him.

"I am sad," the man replied, "because of my master's teaching on giving. Does it mean that I have to give again and again, and again, without any let up?"

"Oh no, not at all," said the angel. "You have to give only as long as God gives to you. If God ever stops giving to you, then you won't have to continue to give to others. God will continue to give to you – except in much greater abundance than you could ever give."

God gives me nothing just for myself. He doesn't give me the gift of speech, for instance, to go around talking to myself. What comes down from God must go sideways to others – otherwise it stops coming – like the spring in the well. This applies to love, forgiveness, compassion, etc.

### Have a good laugh!

**Fair Wages:** The catechist said to the missionary, "Father, you promised to raise my pay if you were satisfied with me." "That's right," said the Padre. "But how can I be satisfied with a catechist who wants more money?"

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Rev. Fr. Injamala Michel, Parish Priest, Gundugolanu, celebrating his silver jubilee celebrations on Jan. 15, 2016, at Thangellamudi.



Bishop Jaya Rao participating in the silver jubilee celebrations of St. Mary's EM School, Kamavarapukota, on Jan. 21, 2016.



Bishop Jaya Rao participating in the silver jubilee celebrations of St. Ann's High School, Nidadavole, on Jan. 7, 2016.



Bishop Jaya Rao along with Rev. Fr. S. David Raj welcoming German friends to the Diocese of Eluru at Bishop's House, Eluru.



Bishop Jaya Rao welcoming Bp. Giuseppa Pellagrini, Bishop of Pordenona, Italy, on Jan. 23, 2016.



His Lordship Jaya Rao blessing a new village chapel at Mamuduru of Attili parish on Jan. 5, 2016.



His Lordship Jaya Rao along with German donors, laying foundation stone for parish church at Mangesettigudem on Jan. 20, 2016.



His Lordship Jaya Rao congratulating the jubilerians & officiating thanksgiving Mass at St. Ann's Convent, Eluru, on Jan. 21, 2016.