

Shatima Vani



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శిరంజీవి - యువతా సంఘదండం

catholic

YOUTH

జనవరి 12, 2019 నుండి జనవరి 12, 2020

YOUTH FOR CHRIST - CHURCH FOR YOUTH

Silver Jubilee of Rosa Mystica Convent, Kamalapuram



Silver Jubilee of Immaculate Sisters Presence in Warangal at Dharmasagar



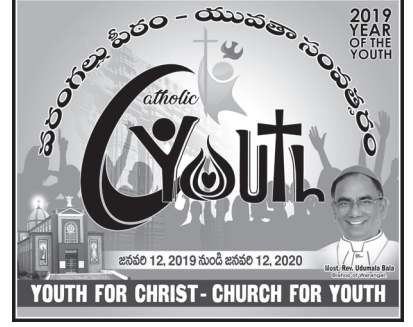
Blessing of FCN Sevashram, Shadnagar, Nalgonda Diocese



School Day Celebrations & Blessing at Choppadandi

వరంగల్లు పీఠం - యువతా సంవత్సరం
జనవరి 12, 2019 నుండి జనవరి 12, 2020 వరకు
యేసుక్రీస్తు కోసం యువత - యువత కోసం కథోలిక శ్రీసభ
పిలుపు - మేలుకొలుపు - జీవిత మలుపు

పరిశుద్ధ పౌలుగారు యువకుడైన తిమోతికి ఇచ్చిన సలహా! “నీవు యౌవన వయస్కుడని నిన్ను చిన్నచూపు చూడకుండునట్లు ప్రవర్తింపుము. నీ మాటలలో, ప్రవర్తనలో, ప్రేమలో, విశ్వాసములో, పవిత్రతలో విశ్వాసులకు ఆదర్శముగా ఉండుము”. 1తిమోతి 4:12.



1. యువకుడిగా యేసు

ప్రభు క్రీస్తునందు ప్రియమైన దైవప్రజలారా! ప్రియాతి ప్రియ యువతీ యువకులారా! వరంగల్లు పీఠ ప్రత్యేక కుటుంబ సంవత్సరాన్ని 2018లో చాలా ఫలవంతంగా కొనియాడినాము. మీరు భక్తితో ఉత్సాహంతో పాల్గొన్నారు. అది నాకు చాలా ఆనందాన్ని కల్పించింది. కాని ఇంత త్వరగా, ఇంకో ప్రత్యేక సంవత్సరాన్ని అంటే యువతా సంవత్సరాన్ని పీఠాధిపతి ప్రకటించడం ఆశ్చర్యాన్ని కల్పించే ఉంటుంది. కుటుంబాల్లో పుట్టి పెరుగుతూ, రెక్కలొచ్చి ఎగిరిపోయే వయసులో ఉన్న యువతీయువకులు చాలా విలువైనవారు. వారి శరీరాల్లో ఎన్నో మార్పులు చోటు చేసికొంటాయి. మనస్సులో ఎన్నో ప్రశ్నలు తలెత్తుతాయి. హృధిలో ఎన్నో సందేహాలు కలుగుతాయి. దేన్నీ గుడ్డిగా అనుసరించడానికి వారి మనసు ఒప్పుకోదు. అటు ఇంట్లో సరిగ్గా ఉండలేరు, ఇటు సమాజంలో పూర్తిగా ఇమడలేరు. ఇక సైతాను విషయానికొస్తే యువతను కురదిపేస్తుంది. కొందరిని ఉతికి పారేస్తుంది. మరి కొందరిని పాతరేస్తుంది. ఇంకెందరినో అనేక ప్రలోభాలకు, శోధనలకు గురి చేస్తుంది. ఆసలు దేవున్ని బాటులో నడిచేవారున్నారా అని సైతాను విప్రవీగుతుంది! ఈలాంటి క్లిష్టవయస్సులో, సంక్లిష్టదశలో వారికి సన్మార్గాన్ని సత్యమార్గాన్ని చూపించే బాధ్యత తల్లిదండ్రులపై, శ్రీసభపై ఎంతగానో ఉన్నది. మరో అభినందనీయమైన విషయమేంటంటే, దైవ పిలుపుపై మక్కువను పెంచే వయస్సు గూడ ఇదే కదా! యేసుప్రభు కూడా 30 సంవత్సరాల యౌవనంలో దైవరాజ్య ఉద్యమానికి “శంఖారావం” ఊదాడు. నమ్మశక్యంకాని మహిమ అద్భుతాల ద్వారా దృవీకరించాడు. 33 సంవత్సరాల వయస్సులో శిలువశ్రమల మరణ ఉత్తనాల ద్వారా దైవరాజ్యాన్ని సాధించిపెట్టాడు. వెరసి యువతా పథానికే నిలువెత్తు సాక్ష్యమై యువతకు మార్గమయ్యాడు. దేవుని చిత్త ప్రకారం జీవిస్తే సాధించలేనిది ఏది లేదని చేసి చూపించాడు ఆ యువతా మహనీయుడు !

2. సంఖ్యాపరంగా... జనాభాలో అధికశాతం

నేటి ప్రపంచంలో ముఖ్యంగా భారతదేశంలో 700 కోట్లకు పైగా యువతీయువకులు ఉన్నారంటే ఆశ్చర్యం వేయడం లేదా? జనాభాలో సగానికి పైగా ముప్పై సంవత్సరాల వయస్సుకు లోపు వారున్నారు. వారంతా కాకపోయినా, వారిలో అధికశాతం సత్యం మార్గంలో పయనిస్తూ ధర్మాన్ని నిలబెడితే క్రీస్తు సాధించిన దైవరాజ్య స్థాపనం సాకారం కాదా? అంతమంది కాకపోయినా, కనీసం “క్రైస్తవ యువత” క్రీస్తుబాటలో నడిస్తే అసాధ్యమైంది ఏదైనా ఉంటుందా? క్రైస్తవత్వం స్వీకరించి తరాలు గడుస్తున్నా ఇంకా తలరాతలపై, అరచేతి గీతలపై ‘నాకర్మ’ అను నమ్మకంపై మూడాఛారాలపై ఆధారపడి ఎంతమంది జీవించుట లేదు! మరోవైపు నిరాశ మనస్తత్వంతో మన యువత “రెటమతపు పిడుగులు, వారెవరి మాట వినరు, వారి దేవుని మాట కూడా పెడచెవిని పెడతారు. వారిని బాగుచేయ ఎవరితరమగును? కాబట్టి వారి మా నానవారిని వారికే వదిలేద్దాం” అని చాలా మంది భావిస్తారు. కాని అగ్ని కణాల్లాంటి యువతను చెడును కాల్చివేయుటకు, మంచిని వెలిగించుటకు పనికొచ్చే వారిగా తీర్చిదిద్దుటలో శ్రీకారం చుట్టేవారు కరువైపోతున్నారు! “పెద్దవాళ్ళంతా ఆ వయోదశ మార్గంలో పయనించినవారే”. ఆలోచనకంటే ఆవేశం ఎక్కువగా వెల్లుభికివచ్చే వయస్సులో యువకులు పెద్దవాళ్ళ ఆదరువుకు, శ్రీసభ ఆసరాకు అర్హులు, హక్కు దారులు కూడాను. రాశిలోనేగాక వాసిలోవన్నెలో, వెలుగులో-వెన్నెలలో, వాడిలో-వీడిలో వారిని ప్రకాశింపచేయగలం. అందుకే ఈ ప్రత్యేక యువతా వత్సర భగీరథ ప్రయత్నం, పవిత్ర ఆశయం!

3. ఆశాభావంతో... యువతావత్సర ఆశయం

యువతీయువకులు దేవాది దేవుని విశిష్ట కానుక అని గుర్తించి

అ) దేవునికి వందనాలు చెల్లించుటకు

ఆ) యువతా శక్తిసామర్థ్యాలను, ప్రతిభా పాఠభావాలను, సుగుణాలను ప్రశంసించుటకు.

ఇ) యువతా సమస్యలకు, సవాళ్ళకు సరైన దారి చూపించుటకు.

ఈ) యువతా అవసరాలైన విద్య, ఉపాధి విషయాల్లో చేయూత నిచ్చుటకు.

ఉ) యువత సువార్త పథంలో నడుచుటకు కావలసిన ఆధ్యాత్మిక విద్యనందించుటకు.

ఊ) యువతను సువార్త ప్రకటనా పరిచర్యలో భాగస్థులను చేయుటకు.

ఋ) వ్యసనాలకు, ఆపరాధాలకులోనై, దారితప్పిన యువతకు మనసు మార్పు కలుగజేయుటకు.

మూ) యువతను శ్రీసభ, దేశ, రాష్ట్ర అభివృద్ధికై పాటుబడు క్రీస్తు సేవా మనస్తత్వం నేర్పుటకు.

ఎ) పై ఆశయాలను గురువులు దైవాంకితులు, వయోజనులు గ్రహించి గ్రామ, గురుమండల, పీఠమండల - ప్రాంతీయ విభాగాల్లో ఈ సంవత్సరమంతా వివిధ కార్యక్రమాలు చేపట్టుటకు.

4. స్నేహం, ప్రేమ వికసించే దశలో... పోటీపడే, పాటుపడే వయస్సులో

యువతీ యువకులంటే 15-30 సంవత్సరాల మధ్యనున్న వ్యక్తులు. కాని సాధారణంగా 'నడిమి' వయస్సులోనున్నవారిని యువకులు అంటారు. కచ్చితమైన వయో హద్దులుగాక, పెద్దవాళ్ళు, వృద్ధులు కూడా యువకులుగా వెలగవచ్చు. కాని కొంతమంది యువకులే వృద్ధులుగా జీవించడం ద్వారా 'కొంతమంది యువకులు' పుట్టుకలో వృద్ధులు అను శ్రీశ్రీ గారి మాటను నిజం చేస్తారు. ఏదిఏమైనా, పరతంత్రం నుండి స్వతంత్రంలోకి, ఆధారపడు స్థితి నుండి స్వాల్పభన దిశవైపు పయనిస్తూ 'నేను' (ego) 'నాది' (Identity) అను మనోభావా పూరితులై 'అహంకారం' (super ego) వైపు లాగుకొనబడతారు. 'నీవు నేను, వారు-వీరు' లాంటి భావాలు పై చేయి చేసికొని, మనం అను మంచిని తొక్కిస్తాయి. వాటికి జతగా లైంగిక చోదక ఉద్వేగాలు (Sexual Drives) మనసుకు మబ్బులు, కమ్మించి, కామ, మోహాల ఉచ్చులో చిక్కుకుపోయే పరీక్షలు ఉంటాయి. ఇక జాతి, మత, కుల, ప్రాంత, బేధాల చెడు శక్తులు వీరిపై ఎంత ప్రభావం చూపుతాయో చెప్పనవసరమే లేదు. స్వచ్ఛమైన ప్రణయాన్ని, నిస్వార్థమైన ప్రేమను పశుప్రప్రవృత్తిగా దిగజార్చే మోహాంధకారంలో చిక్కుకుపోతారు మరికొందరు. అటుదైవ ప్రేమని, ఇటు అమృతాన్నల ఆదరువుని ప్రక్కనబెట్టి, సంక్లిష్ట చిక్కుల్లో ఇరుక్కుపోయే అత్యంత ప్రమాదస్థితి ఇది. ఇంకోవైపు స్నేహం, ప్రేమ అను గుణాలు, పోటీ పడే మనస్తత్వం, పాడు పడే ధైర్య సాహసాలకు కొదవే లేని ఒక విశిష్టదశ యవ్వనం!

5. యేసుక్రీస్తు శరణ్యం... శ్రీసభ ఆశ్రయం

పద్మవ్యాహమనే యౌవన దశలో చిక్కుకుపోయిన యువతకు యేసుక్రీస్తు శరణ్యం. యువకుడైన యేసు వ్యక్తిత్వం, సందేశం, నాయకత్వం యువక హృదయాలను రగిలిస్తుంది. దావీదు, జోనాతాను, దోమినిక్ సోవియో, అలోషియస్ గొంజాగ, వివేకానంద లాంటివారు యువతకు స్ఫూర్తినిచ్చినా యేసుకన్న మిన్నకాదు వారు. ఈ నాయకమూర్తియైన క్రీస్తుని కనుగొనే సంకటస్థితిలో కఠోలిక శ్రీసభ ఆశ్రయం, ఆశ్రమం కావాలి, వాళ్ళలో చెరిపేయలేని ఆశాభావం కల్గించాలి. సువార్త జ్ఞానం, సత్యోపదేశం అందించాలి. దానితో పాటు వాళ్ళ మదిలో ఎగిసే ప్రశ్నలకు, ఎగిరెగిరే అనుమానాలకు శ్రీ సభ దగ్గర సంతృప్తికర సమాధానాలు ఉండాలి. తమ్ముతాము నాశనము చేసికొంటున్నవారికి, తికమక వలలో చిక్కుకుపోయినవారికి, భయాందోళనలకు లోనైపోయిన వారికి, గాయపడినవారిని, ఘోరాలు-నేరాలు చేసే సంకెళ్ళలో బంధింపబడినవారికి, దారితప్పిన వారికి సురక్షిత ఆశ్రయం శ్రీసభమవుతుంది. వారిని ఆహ్వానిస్తుంది. వాటికి జయించిన యువత ఎందరో ఉన్నారు. మన మధ్యలో వారి సాక్ష్యాలను వినియోగించుకోవాలని. వారిని సువార్త సేవలో, శ్రీసభ కార్యక్రమాల్లో, పరిచర్యల ప్రణాళికలో, నాయకత్వ రంగాల్లో రాణించేటట్లు నడిపించాలి. మరో అడుగు ముందుకేస్తూ క్రైస్తవేతర యువతా సంఘాలతో కలసి సమాజసేవా కార్యక్రమాలు నిర్వహించాలి.

6. పిలుపు... మేలుకొలుపు - జీవిత మలుపు

యువతీయువకుల పట్ల ఎంతో శ్రద్ధ కనపరచుచు పరిశుద్ధ ప్రాంచీసు పోపుగారు, యువతా సంక్షేమం కోసం 2018 అక్టోబరు నెలలో ప్రపంచ పీఠాధిపతుల మహాసభను రోమా పట్టణంలో ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. కథోలిక శ్రీసభ యువతను నడిపించాలని, యువతతో నడవాలని పిలుపునిచ్చారు. పాఠశాలల విద్య మొదలుకొని, విచారణ స్థాయి సత్యోపదేశ విద్యద్వారా కంప్యూటర్-అంతర్జాల-స్మార్టుఫోను వలలో చిక్కుకుపోతున్న యువత కళ్ళు తెరిపించాలి. వారు కలలు కనేవారే గాక కలలు కల్గలు కాకుండా, వాటిని సాకారం చేసే యువతగా తీర్చిదిద్దుమని కోరారు. అటు శ్రీసభ సేవకోసం, ఇటు సమాజ సేవకోసం “యువతా, కథోలిక యువతా ! మేల్కొండి, మీ జీవన మలుపు తిప్పండి. గెలుపే మీ లక్ష్యమైనా, ఓటమి కూడ మీ జీవితాల్లో ఒక ముఖ్య భాగమని తెలిసి కోవాలి. కాని ఓటమి మీ చివరి గమ్యం కాదు, కాకూడదు! పడిలేచే కెరటంలా, పట్టు వదలక గమ్యం చేరే వరకు, లక్ష్యం సాధించే వరకు పట్టు వలని విక్రమార్కుల్లా విజృంభించండి. ఈ సంవత్సరమంతా వరంగల్లు కథోలిక యువత జాతిమత, కుల-గోత్రం, భాష-ప్రాంతం, భేదాలు లేకుండా చెడును కాల్యాలన్నా, అడ్డుగోడలు కూల్చాలన్నా, సైతాను శక్తుల పేల్చాలన్నా, క్రీస్తు శిలువ జెండా మోస్తూ, మా అజెండా సువార్త ఆయుధంతో సమసమాజం, మానవత్వ సౌభాత్యక సౌరభాల నవసమాజ స్థాపనలో, క్రీస్తు ప్రారంభించిన దైవరాజ్య పరిపూర్తిలో “నేను సైతం” అని ఎలుగెత్తి గర్జించండి. అవసరమైతే ఆ యజ్ఞ ఆహుతిలో ఓ సమిధనైపోతా! నేను మరణించి, క్రీస్తులా ఎందరితో ప్రాణం పోస్తా అని ప్రతిజ్ఞ చేయండి. జై యేసు! జైజై క్రీస్తు ! జైజైజై వరంగల్లు కథోలిక యువత!

7. కొన్ని ప్రతిపాదిత కార్యక్రమాలు :

- అ) ప్రతి గురు మండలంలో, గ్రామాల్లో యువతా సంఘాలు ఏర్పాటు.
- ఆ) విచారణ సలహా మండలి (Parish Council)లో స్థానం.
- ఇ) ఆత్మజ్ఞాన / లోక జ్ఞాన సదస్సులు ఏర్పాటు.
- ఈ) అన్ని పాఠశాలల్లో యువ క్రైస్తవ / జన (YCS/YSM) సంఘాలు ఏర్పాటు.
- ఉ) విద్య గరిపే FCT విద్యాసాయం పొందేవారి కృతజ్ఞతా సమావేశాలు.
- ఊ) దైవజ్ఞాన /లోకజ్ఞాన తీర్థయాత్రలు. ఆత్మావలోకన (Retreat) సదస్సుల ఏర్పాటు.
- ఎ) సాంఘిక, సాంస్కృతిక, ఆటపాటల పోటీలు.
- ఏ) వ్యసనాల్లో చిక్కుకుపోయిన వారి మనోమార్పు కార్యక్రమాలు.
- ఐ) మధ్యలోనే చదువు ఆపేసిన వారికి, కొనసాగింపు విద్య అవకాశాలు.
- ఒ) దైవార్చనలో నెలకో యువతా పూజ, వారానికోసారి ప్రార్థనా సమావేశం నిర్వహించుట.
- ఓ) గురువులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు యువతా ప్రేరణా పథకాల రచన, నిర్వాహణ.
- ఔ) యుకాట్, డుకాట్, బోధనలలో క్రైస్తవ నాయకత్వాన్ని ప్రోత్సహించుట అందజేయడం.
- అం) యువతా వికాసానికి ఆర్థిక, హార్థిక సాయం అందించుట యువతకు ఆత్మీయ ఆశీర్వాదాలతో.

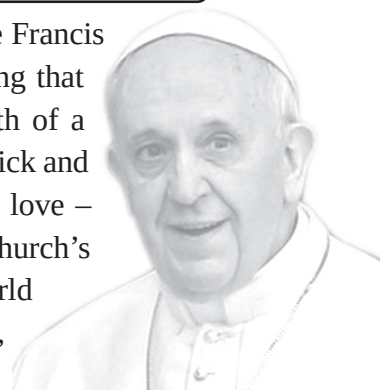
మీ జ్ఞాన తండ్రి

†మహా పూజ్య ఉడుమల బాల

వరంగల్లు పీఠకాపరి

II. Pope's Message for the 27th World Day of the Sick

In his message for the 27th World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis urges believers to promote a culture of generosity, noting that the joy of generous giving is a barometer of the health of a Christian. Pope Francis says that those who care for the sick and give of themselves with generosity and straightforward love – like St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta - are amongst the Church's most credible evangelizers. In his message for the World Day of the Sick, which will be celebrated on 11 February, the pope focuses on Jesus' words to the Apostles: "You received without payment; give without payment" (Mt



10:8). Established in 1993 by Saint John Paul II on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes, a different city is chosen each year to host the World Day of the Sick. This year the choice has fallen on Calcutta in India, and Pope Francis has highlighted the figure of Saint Teresa of Calcutta as a model of charity who made God's love for the poor and sick visible.

"You received without payment; give without payment" (Mt 10:8). These are the words spoken by Jesus when sending forth his apostles to spread the Gospel, so that his Kingdom might grow through acts of gratuitous love.

On the XXVII World Day of the Sick, to be solemnly celebrated on 11 February 2019 in Calcutta, India, the Church – as a Mother to all her children, especially the infirm – reminds us that generous gestures like that of the Good Samaritan are the most credible means of evangelization. Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved. Life is a gift from God. Saint Paul asks: "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Cor 4:7). Precisely because it is a gift, human life cannot be reduced to a personal possession or private property, especially in the light of medical and biotechnological advances that could tempt us to manipulate the "tree of life" (cf. Gen 3:24).

Amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that "gift" is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures. Dialogue – the premise of gift – creates possibilities for human growth and development capable of breaking through established ways of exercising power in society. "Gift" means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply a transfer of property or objects. "Gift"

differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship. It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. “Gift” is a reflection of God’s love, which culminates in the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Each of us is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, we require the care of our parents to survive, and at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as “creatures”, before other individuals and situations. A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life. Such an acknowledgement leads us to act responsibly to promote a good that is both personal and communal. Only if we see ourselves, not as a world apart, but in a fraternal relationship with others, can we develop a social practice of solidarity aimed at the common good. We should not be afraid to regard ourselves as needy or reliant on others, because individually and by our own efforts we cannot overcome our limitations. So we should not fear, then, to acknowledge those limitations, for God himself, in Jesus, has humbly stooped down to us (cf. Phil 2:8) and continues to do so; in our poverty, he comes to our aid and grants us gifts beyond our imagining.

In light of the solemn celebration in India, I would like to recall, with joy and admiration, the figure of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta – a model of charity who made visible God’s love for the poor and sick. As I noted at her canonization, “Mother Teresa, in all aspects of her life, was a generous dispenser of divine mercy, making herself available for everyone through her welcome and defence of human life, of those unborn and those abandoned and discarded... She bowed down before those who were spent, left to die on the side of the road, seeing in them their God-given dignity; she made her voice heard before the powers of this world, so that they might recognize their guilt for the crime – the crimes! – of poverty they created. For Mother Teresa, mercy was the ‘salt’ which gave flavour to her work; it was the ‘light’ that shone in the darkness of the many who no longer had tears to shed for their poverty and suffering. Her mission to the urban and existential peripheries remains for us today an eloquent witness to God’s closeness to the poorest of the poor” (Homily, 4 September 2016).

Saint Mother Teresa helps us understand that our only criterion of action must be selfless love for every human being, without distinction of language, culture, ethnicity or religion. Her example continues to guide us by opening up horizons of joy and hope for all those in need of understanding and tender love, and especially for those who suffer. Generosity inspires and sustains the work of the many volunteers who are so important in health care and who eloquently embody the spirituality of the Good Samaritan. I express my

gratitude and offer my encouragement to all those associations of volunteers committed to the transport and assistance of patients, and all those that organize the donation of blood, tissues and organs. One particular area in which your presence expresses the Church's care and concern is that of advocacy for the rights of the sick, especially those affected by pathologies requiring special assistance. I would also mention the many efforts made to raise awareness and encourage prevention. Your volunteer work in medical facilities and in homes, which ranges from providing health care to offering spiritual support, is of primary importance. Countless persons who are ill, alone, elderly or frail in mind or body benefit from these services. I urge you to continue to be a sign of the Church's presence in a secularized world. A volunteer is a good friend with whom one can share personal thoughts and emotions; by their patient listening, volunteers make it possible for the sick to pass from being passive recipients of care to being active participants in a relationship that can restore hope and inspire openness to further treatment. Volunteer work passes on values, behaviours and ways of living born of a deep desire to be generous. It is also a means of making health care more humane.

A spirit of generosity ought especially to inspire Catholic healthcare institutions, whether in the more developed or the poorer areas of our world, since they carry out their activity in the light of the Gospel. Catholic facilities are called to give an example of self-giving, generosity and solidarity in response to the mentality of profit at any price, of giving for the sake of getting, and of exploitation over concern for people. I urge everyone, at every level, to promote the culture of generosity and of gift, which is indispensable for overcoming the culture of profit and waste. Catholic healthcare institutions must not fall into the trap of simply running a business; they must be concerned with personal care more than profit. We know that health is relational, dependent on interaction with others, and requiring trust, friendship and solidarity. It is a treasure that can be enjoyed fully only when it is shared. The joy of generous giving is a barometer of the health of a Christian.

I entrust all of you to Mary, *Salus Infirmorum*. May she help us to share the gifts we have received in the spirit of dialogue and mutual acceptance, to live as brothers and sisters attentive to each other's needs, to give from a generous heart, and to learn the joy of selfless service to others.

With great affection, I assure you of my closeness in prayer, and to all I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.



III. Dichotomy in Rendering Social Justice

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) Office for SC/BC is deeply concerned about the dichotomy in rendering social justice in India. Both the houses of the Parliament passed the bill giving 10% reservation in education and employment for the Economically Weaker Section in India. Though there are various schemes, scholarships and programs available for the economically weaker section, the Government was keen and haste in passing the bill. It is a known fact that the Economically Weaker Section is not affected by the caste system in India. We also understand that the bill was introduced in the Parliament without a scientific study of the Economically Weaker Section.

We are sorry that the Government does not show the same kind of concern for the issue of Christians and Muslims of Scheduled Caste Origin, thus discriminating them in the name of religion. Christians and Muslims of SC origin have been demanding the right to be included in Scheduled Caste list since 1950. Christians and Muslims of SC origin were born in untouchable communities and still experience exclusion and stigma of untouchability. They are educationally and economically backward as their counterpart Hindu Dalits.

Backward Class Commissions acknowledge the social and economic backwardness of Christians of Scheduled Caste Origin and recommend Scheduled Caste status to them. (Sri Kaka Kalelkar Backward Class Commission, Government of India, 1955, Nettur Commission Report, Government of Kerala, 1965, Backward Class Commission of Andhra Pradesh, 1970, Elayaperumal Commission, 1969 etc.)

National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM), 2007, stated that non-inclusion of Christians and Muslims of Scheduled Caste Origin in the SC list is a discrimination based on religion and goes against the Constitution.

“Dalits in the Muslim and Christian Communities, A status Report on Current Social and Scientific Knowledge”, Prepared for the National Commission for Minorities, Government of India by Prof. Satish Deshpande clearly states, “There is no compelling evidence to justify denying SC status to Dalit Muslims and Dalit Christians.”

It is really a social injustice that in spite of all the recommendations of the Commissions and scientific studies, the Government denies justice to the Christians and Muslims of Scheduled Caste Origin.

Therefore we request the Hon. Prime Minister of India

- To pass a bill to include Christians and Muslims of Scheduled Caste origin in the Scheduled Caste list.
- To increase the reservation to SCs and STs, proportionate to their population.

IV. Holy Childhood Sunday

Young children have much to teach adults who have observed their sense of adventure and discovery. When a child chases a butterfly, tries to tie up his shoe lace for the first time, begins to jabber words and sentences that only gradually begin to make sense, adults can be amused and touched. Sometimes, something more happens. Adults can rediscover important things they had forgotten about. A child asks, “Why is that flower red?”, or, “Why do I have to go to sleep now ?” “Why’s that man got no hair on his head?” You can just answer that question and leave it at that; or else you can begin to question all the things you had taken for granted; and sometimes, because you’re an adult with an adult’s experience, the questions are more searching. But there is more. Their questions can be devastating: “Why is that child crying? Where’s her mummy and daddy ?” “Why are those children so thin; and why are they dying?”. And if we’re honest, something of the child still survives in us, that we can only lose to our great cost. Let the nine-year-old persist in the ninety-year-old! In welcoming children (“let the children come to me”) and laying his hands on them, Jesus was conveying a practical parable about recapturing childhood; and his warnings about scandalising the little ones included protecting that beautiful child within us from being reduced to an ugly urchin. The controversy over adult vs. infant baptism was resolved in advance by Jesus’ word to the old night visitor, Nicodemus, “Unless you become like little children you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven.” Nine days to ninety years, all baptisms are infant baptisms! Children bear the image of God, are worthy of respect and dignity, having an uncorrupted and spiritual nature, capable of being virtuous and heroic, ever redeemable, whatever their misdemeanours, and destined for eternal life. Childhood’s meaning in society is represented in rituals, namely, “bar mitzvah”, cubs and scouts/guides with their distinctive roles and practices. Through these transitional rituals a society guarantees the integrity of this period called childhood.

On the other hand, a society for which the education of children is essentially about pressing a child into adult or pseudo-adult roles as fast as possible has lost patience with the commitment to guarantee the integrity of the childhood period. Think of the misshapen phenomenon of “child soldiers” in revolutionary outfits or of movies where children seriously ape adults. When childhood as an icon has been lost, the void is filled with an impoverished substitute, marked by an uncritical view of the child as “consumer” or “mini-adult”, or as a means of cheap labour, or simply as an object to be tolerated. This is a travesty of the distinctive significance of children, of their dignity, destiny and rightful place in the divine scheme of things. Persistence of the travesty and a veto on the rituals and roles proper to them will compel the children to create their own mythical world. In today’s terms, they will do a Harry Potter.

Some of the foolish things we have done we hope they won't do. In this calamitous world children are often the first to suffer from the violence of adults. Nothing seems so tragic or monstrous when children die with nothing to eat, those who are brutalised by human sin, cynics before their time, never having known love and hope and peace and justice.

What happened to them by a few deadly strokes of a murderer's axe is happening to millions more of their kind in an extended way. I refer to the living death of child labour and prostitution, the blank emptiness produced by divorce and separation, the slow disintegration of the moral personality in a consumerist and hedonistic culture that the late Holy Father had called "the culture of death."

UNICEF celebrates 65 years of its existence. UNICEF is an emergency fund for children. Is there an emergency? With one child in three going hungry to bed there's always an emergency.

All this tells is why we need Christmas, so that the child for whom there is no room in the world's inn may instead occupy our hearts, leaving no space there for evil. Childhood is the invention of Christianity from the moment Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me", whereas formerly children had no status. . The children crave for a story of redemption that will capture their imaginative world, so that when they leave school they are equipped not with stale news best forgotten, but with a life story that is coherent, relevant and vitally central to them.

Thoughts of the future somehow become interwoven with the idea of innocence. Now, for the first time an infant becomes a symbolic figure - and his mother together with him: Mother and Child. And all fell prostrate before him, becoming as innocent as babes themselves. Here we have a Child who is a constant reminder that in God the child is never extinct.

We are teachers and, by God's mercy, co-workers of the Lord. May we never lose the prophetic vision of the perfectly secure child and the picture of the little ones reposing in the arms of Jesus.

And now, since today is Holy Childhood Sunday, our hearts go out to poor and neglected children, and as we do our part to help them materially let us also help them spiritually by this prayer:



V. Feast of Presentation of the Lord

On Feast, we contemplate the Lord Jesus, whom Mary and Joseph bring to the Temple “to present him to the Lord” (Lk 2:22). This Gospel scene reveals the mystery of the Son of the Virgin, the consecrated One of the Father who came into the world to do his will faithfully (cf. Heb 10:5-7).



Simeon identifies him as “a light for revelation to the Gentiles” (Lk 2:32) and announces with prophetic words his supreme offering to God and his final victory (cf. Lk 2:32-35). This is the meeting point of the two Testaments, Old and New. Jesus enters the ancient temple; he who is the new Temple of God: he comes to visit his people, thus bringing to fulfilment obedience to the Law and ushering in the last times of salvation.

It is interesting to take a close look at this entrance of the Child Jesus into the solemnity of the temple, in the great comings and goings of many people, busy with their work: priests and Levites taking turns to be on duty, the numerous devout people and pilgrims anxious to encounter the Holy God of Israel. Yet none of them noticed anything. Jesus was a child like the others, a first-born son of very simple parents.

Even the priests proved incapable of recognizing the signs of the new and special presence of the Messiah and Saviour. Alone two elderly people, Simeon and Anna, discover this great newness. Led by the Holy Spirit, in this Child they find the fulfilment of their long waiting and watchfulness. They both contemplate the light of God that comes to illuminate the world and their prophetic gaze is opened to the future in the proclamation of the Messiah: “Lumen ad revelationem gentium!” (Lk 2:32). The prophetic attitude of the two elderly people contains the entire Old Covenant which expresses the joy of the encounter with the Redeemer. Upon seeing the Child, Simeon and Anna understood that he was the Awaited One.



VI. Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

“Go and tell the priests that people should come here in procession, and that a chapel should be built here.” This is the message Bernadette received from the “beautiful lady”. For 150 years, pilgrims have never ceased to come to the grotto of Massabielle to hear the message of conversion and hope which is addressed to them. And we can do the same; [come] to the feet of Mary, the Immaculate Virgin, eager to learn from her alongside little Bernadette.



“What a great thing it is to possess the Cross! He who possesses it possesses a treasure” (Saint Andrew of Crete, Homily X on the Exaltation of the Cross, PG 97, 1020). God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that men might be saved (cf. Jn 3:16). The Son of God became vulnerable, assuming the condition of a slave, obedient even to death, death on a cross (cf. Phil 2:8). By his Cross we are saved. The instrument of torture which, on Good Friday, manifested God’s judgment on the world, has become a source of life, pardon, mercy, a sign of reconciliation and peace. “In order to be healed from sin, gaze upon Christ crucified!” said Saint Augustine (Treatise on Saint John, XII, 11). By raising our eyes towards the Crucified one, we adore him who came to take upon himself the sin of the world and to give us eternal life. And the Church invites us proudly to lift up this glorious Cross so that the world can see the full extent of the love of the Crucified one for all. She invites us to give thanks to God because from a tree which brought death, life has burst out anew. On this wood Jesus reveals to us his sovereign majesty, he reveals to us that he is exalted in glory. Yes, “Come, let us adore him!” In our midst is he who loved us even to giving his life for us, he who invites every human being to draw near to him with trust.



VII. Feast of St. Peter the Chair

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle, one of the celebrations commemorating the leader of Christ's Apostles and His vicar on earth, besides that of the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul in the month of June. On this day, we are focusing on the Chair or indeed, better known as the Cathedra of St. Peter, the first Bishop of Rome and Pope.



Some of us might be wondering, why is it that we celebrate the feast of a chair, even if it is the Chair of St. Peter himself as the Vicar of Christ. That is because we must understand the importance of chair in the historical context of the Church. A chair is historically related as the symbol of power and authority, much as thrones are for kings and rulers. When a king or ruler is enthroned, he or she symbolically receives the power and authority to reign over his or her kingdom.

Similarly therefore, the chair for the bishops of the Church symbolises their authority, the authority to teach the Gospels and the truth of God to the people, as well as their administrative and spiritual authority over the flock and the people entrusted under his care. And throughout the dioceses in the world, there is a particular chair in each of the dioceses, in a particular church, named the cathedra as mentioned, as the seat of the bishop's authority, and the churches with the cathedra are called cathedrals.

There is in fact an actual physical cathedra belonging to St. Peter in the Vatican, at St. Peter's Basilica, where the chair that is supposed to be St. Peter's actual chair of teaching is placed in the most prominent place above the high altar on the eastern end of the Basilica, underneath the famous and magnificent dove imagery representing the Holy Spirit. This signifies the authority of the Pope as the successors of St. Peter as the Bishop of Rome and as leader of the entire universal Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Each and every one of us as Christians ought to follow the examples of our holy predecessors. And as we are all part of the one Church of God, which is the same Church that He established upon the foundation of His Apostles, especially St. Peter the Apostle, let us all do our respective parts, in order to work together as one Church, under the authority of the successors of the Apostles, the bishops, who themselves are united to the successor of St. Peter, our Pope, the leader of the Universal Church.

VIII. Bishop's Engagements in the Month of February, 2019

- 01 : Office
- 02 : Office
- 03 : Village Feast Grotto Blessing at Edulapusapally, Mahabubabad Parish
- 04-06 : Classes in St. John's Seminary, Ramanthapur
- 07- 08: TCBC ARMS Meeting at Janampet, Eluru Diocese
- 09 : Silver Jubilee Celebration of St. Augustine High School, Seva Sadan Convent, Maripeda
- 09-12 : Visit of Bishop Kapacz of Diocese of Jackson, MS, USA
- 11 : Our Lady of Lourdes Feast - Singaram Parish
- 12 : Office
- 13 : Classmates Gathering at Hyderabad
- 14 : Diamond Jubilee of Sr. Speranza Kurian, St. Ann's, Home for the Aged, Fatimanagar
- 15 : Silver Jubilee of Holy Cross Church and Fr. Yeruva Bala's at Agapeta, Narmetta Parish
- 16 : 1st Profession of Sisters of Destitute at Infant Jesus School, Reddipalem, Mogilicherla, Assisi Parish
- 17 : Confirmations at Kummarigudem, Diesel Colony Parish
- 18 : Clergy Recollection : 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 19-20 : Ongoing Formation of TCBC Region
- 21 : Feast Mass at Gudur
- 22 : Silver Jubilee of Sr. Shyamala, SAP at St. Joseph School, Kazipet Parish
- 23 : Centenary Celebrations of Thammadapalli village and Silver Jubilee of St. Peter's Church and Fr. Golamari Bala Martin at Thammadapalli, Sagaram Parish
- 24 : Confirmations at Bhupalapalli
- 25-March,01: CDPI General Body Meeting, Jalandar, Punjab

N.B. : For Urgent work, welcome to take appointment to meet with Bishop any time.

March, 2019

- 02 : Final Profession, Regina Mundi
- 05 : Office
- 06 : Ash Wednesday Mass at Cathedral
- 07 : Office
- 08 : Office for Consecrated
- 09 : Marriage Preparation Course, Fatimanagar
- 10 : Holy Childhood Day : Special Mass assisted and organised by Children
ARMS Exco Meeting, Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee
- 11 : Fatima Tirunalla : Married Couples Day
- 12 : Fatima Tirunalla : Sick and Handicapped : Healing Day
- 13 : Fatima Tirunalla : Festive Mass by Most Rev. Joseph Raja Rao, Bishop
of Vijayawada

IX. Communications

1. Clergy Recollection: Day of recollection is arranged for the clergy at Bishop's House on February 18, 2019, beginning at 9:00 am. and closing with Lunch. All the Priests are requested to attend.

2. World Day of the Sick : Every year the Church celebrates the World Day of the Sick on the 11th of February, on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes. This year it is at Kolkata. I request all the parish priests to observe it meaningfully-kindly arrange a Holy Mass, Convention, Healing and deliverance of evil spirits.

3. Holy Childhood Day : This year the Holy Childhood Day falls on the 10th of February. Parish Priests and Heads of Institutions are requested to observe the Day and make a special collection and send it to the diocesan office by the end of the month. Kindly animate Catholic children in Schools & Hostels with special preaching, prayer and contribution. Let them thank the Holy Childhood Society and learn to help the poorest children. They should be guided to conduct activities and raise funds for poorer children than they are.

4. No Financial Transactions from 15th of March to 3rd of April 2019 : As the financial year 2018 - 2019 will come to a close on 31st of March 2019, there will be no financial transactions in Bishop's House from 15th of March to 3rd April, 2019.

5. Regional Youth Convention : We have Regional Youth Convention at Don Bosco Navajeevan, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad on 8th -10th of February. Food and accommodation is free. No registration fee is required. They have to bear the travelling charges. It will be a good experience and youth can learn new things. Please encourage, finance! Let me know the number who are interested to participate.

Fr. Anil, Youth Director

X. Informations

1. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exaltation for the Lord our God is born in on this earth" Every Christmas brings us new joy, new hope, new dreams, new feelings and new atmosphere. Christmas is celebrated all over the world, every new tiny child smiles in wonder of Christmas decorations and celebrations.

Wardhanapet is of those in celebrating Christmas. Christmas vigil began with joyful presentation of dances(kolatam) by the substation Kothapelly Catholics, Colourful decorations in and around, large number of gathering brought a festival look in the campus of St. Ignatious Church Wardhanapet. Holy Mass began at 10.30 pm by the parish priest Rev. Fr. Chinnappa Reddy. There was an atmosphere of heavenly experience with large gathering. Fr. Inspired the gathering with his meaningful Christmas massage. Soon after the mass people were treated by the Christmas sweets and cakes, which really made them feel the mood of Christmas. On 25th Holy Mass celebrated in Nallabelly parish in the morning, with sweets and cakes shared the joy of Christmas with the people.

Thereafter Special Holy Mass was celebrated in Kothapelly substation parish at 11.30 am. This special mass was arranged by the parish priest Fr. Chinnappa Reddy to give baptisms to the non Catholics. There were 50 people young, old and children who had prepared themselves with the prayers taught by John the Baptist sisters. Indeed it was heart moving moments for everyone who joined the Holy Mass. During the Holy Mass Fr. Chinnappa Reddy prepared everyone spiritually in order to receive Baptism in a worthy manner. Even though there was no church, people of the parish made an

arrangement with chairs and shamiyana in order to have comfortable position for the Holy Mass. People were washed away with their original sins and were baptised with Catholic faith. It gave a great and true witness to all the others gathered and even all the other people of the Kothapelly village. It was a great success and awesome experience of Christmas-2018. It was a meaningful Christmas with new baptisms to the Holy Catholic Church. Choirs of Angels sang in exaltation in Kothapelly village and welcomed "Baby Jesus" to this sinful world to make it holy as heaven with his blood. Amen.

Fr.YC Reddy (Fr. Paul)

2. News from Youth Centre

Warangal Year of Youth Meetings :

National Youth Day Celebrations : On 12 th January we have celebrated the National Youth day with the initiative of Fr. Anil at Tatikayala village, Malkapur parish. We have started the programme with the prayer followed by a talk stressing on the role of the youth for a better society. Later we had the Group Dynamics, followed by different competitions for the youth. The winners were awarded with prizes.

We had the plantation programme in the church campus. Fr. P. Dasaiah the parish priest has taken the initiative to gather the youth of the parish. Fr. G. Suresh addressed and encouraged the youth. Nearly 80 youth participated in the programme.

Visitation of Youth Groups: The Youth Director Rev.Fr.Anil had visited the Youth of Parkal parish and celebrated the Holy Eucharist and addressed the youth. He congratulated the newly elected parish youth committee. He gave the guidelines on their role in the parish. Fr. G. Naveen the parish priest had taken the special interest to encourage and motivate the youth. 35 youth gathered and shared their views. All the committee members took the oath to take up the responsibilities.

Fr. Anil P, DYD

3. News from the Pastoral Centre

I had visited many parishes, Schools and Colleges in the Diocese. As I visited them celebrated Holy Eucharist and encouraged the faithful and motivated them to form new mission villages and prepare them for Bible quiz and other competitions.

1. Marriage Preparation Course MPC Program was conducted on 12th and 13th of January at Pastoral Centre.
2. Bible Training Program was conducted on 15th and 16th of January at Pastoral Centre. His Lordship Most.Rev.Dr.Udumala Bala gave them a message and motivated them to read Bible, Preach and be a Witness to the message. Rev.Fr. Solomon Raj Director of Regional Pastoral Centre was the resource person for the Bible training program. Only selected persons from parishes attended the program. All of them gave a word that they will read, be a witness and help the parishes to form atleast one new mission in the parish.
3. As the member of Warangal Diocese Education Body I together with the body visited all the Schools and Colleges to motivate Catholic teachers and students.
4. On 13th of January FCT has conducted a day of training program for all the college girls. I was the resource person and celebrated Holy Eucharist for them.
5. Many more activities are conducted in Pastoral Centre and in different Parishes to encourage for mission work and evangelization in the parishes.

Important information :

1) Catechism Teachers Training on February 3, 2019

Our Diocese is organizing a day of training program for all those who are teaching Catechism in the Schools and College. Dear Fathers, Sisters and the Heads of the institutions please do send Catechism teachers and if there is no teacher in the school and college appoint and send them for training program. Program is conducted at Pastoral Centre on 3rd February i.e. first Sunday of the month from 10:00 Am to 1:00 Pm. Holy Eucharist and Lunch will be arranged.

2) Catechism Exam :

Catechism exam for all the Catholic students in Schools and College will be conducted on 9th February from 10:30am to 12:00 pm in their respective school and Colleges. Question papers will be sent to you by your teachers who attend the training program. If you don't receive it, please contact me personally and collect it. If required we are ready to send but contact me. Please take risk in receiving question papers, conducting the exam and send them as soon as possible. The best will be given prizes on Fathima Feast Day before Holy Eucharist by our Bishop Most.Rev.Dr.Udumala Bala.

➤ Dear Fathers and Sisters, I request, please, Catechism is must to all the parish children. If there is no teacher to teach catechism after mass to children in parish and in School, please do appoint a teacher and see that the spirit continues. Though there is less number even one please do it. Be positive and take risk. If there is no pain there is no gain. Thank you.

Fr. Gopu Kamal Kumar Reddy, Director.

4. News from LODIMSSS

The New Year with its winter and cold by the help of “Mother of God” brought forth new beginnings in Lodi MSSS under various projects.



Title of the Project : Save A Family Plan (SAFP): Devunoor and Rampur villages

“Save A Family Plan” The New project, it is aimed at the enhancement of the abandoned women and widows through livelihood initiatives in Devunoor and Rampur villages. The SAFP pilot project 2019 paved the initial Trainings for 20 women to become capable in implementing the activities to get sustainable income.

Title of the Project : NRM program, Devarappula mandal

➤ Constructed 525 stone gullies in farmers agricultural lands in 250 acres of 250 farmers in 6 villages to control the soil erosion and increase the soil moisture retention capacity.

➤ Constructed 2 check dam in 2 villages and 70 farmers will benefit with increase of irrigation sources to 65 acres of land through recharge of bore wells and open wells.

➤ 2 irrigation ponds in 2 villages were renovated by clearance of jungle on the bund, strengthened the bund and 55 farmers will benefit with the recharge of 50 Bore wells and 55 acres of land will be irrigated.

Fr. D. Vijaya Paul, Director, Lodi MSSS

Masses Remitted in Bishop's House

Date	Parish	Masses	Amount
01/12/2018	Singaram Parish	412	41,200/-
12/12/2018	St. Peters Colony Parish	72	7,200/-
13/12/2018	Waddepally Parish	135	13,500/-
15/12/2018	St. Peters Colny Parish	57	5,700/-
22/12/2018	Shathipuram Parish	127	12,700/-
01/01/2019	Fatimanagar Parish	200	20,000/-
01/01/2019	St. Peters Colony Parish	12	1,200/-
01/01/2019	Subedari Parish	642	64,200/-
10/01/2019	Singarram Parish	210	21,000/-
10/01/2019	Ekashilanagar Parish	17	1,700/-
17/01/2019	Husnabad Parish	120	12,000/-
21/01/2019	St. Peters Colony Parish	21	2,100/-
29/01/2019	Godavarikhani Parish	500	50,000/-

Pope's Intentions : February - 2019

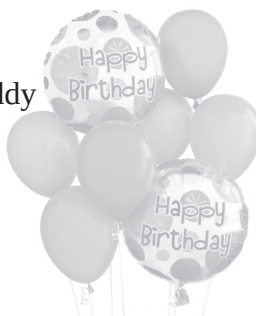


Holy Father's Universal Intention for the month of February 2019. For a generous welcome of the Victims of Human trafficking of enforced prostitutions and of violence



Birthday Babies in February

Rev. Fr. Idara Abraham	04-02-1940
Rev. Fr. Golamari Bala Martin	08-02-1967
Rev. Fr. Nagothu Maria Joseph	08-02-1981
Rev. Fr. Singareddy Balashowreddy	14-02-1959
Rev. Fr. Arlagadda Prakash	14-02-1941
Rev. Fr. Yeruva Chinnappa	15-02-1949
Rev. Fr. Yeruva Joji	15-02-1956
Rev. Fr. Basani Prakash	20-02-1957



St. Paul's High School Computer Lab & Water Plant Blessing at Jangoan



First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Fatima Cathedral, Fatimanagar



Bible Convention at Pastoral Centre, Fatimanagar



Visitation Of Italian Sponsors & Friends of Fr. Colombo



Visitation Of Italian Sponsors & Friends of Fr. Colombo

Hearty Congratulations
to

Our Dear Bishop Udumala Bala



*On being Reelcted Chairmen of
CCBI Commission for Vocations, Seminarians,
Clergy and Religious
and
Elected TCBC Chairmen of Divya Vani and Amruthavani*

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