

Fatima Vani



News Letter
Diocese of Warangal



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Christmas 2020 in Covid-2019 Spell

Wondering How to Celebrate Advent-Christmas?

Are you not wondering how your Parish could navigate the Christmas season during the pandemic, especially in the threat of the 2nd wave of Covid19? In a year where everything is different, how should we handle our church's events of Advent and Christmas? We love the traditions that come with those festivities and that's why we observe them every year. They draw us closer to each other and to God by fixing our eyes on Jesus. But this year we have to figure out how to celebrate Christmas with coronavirus on the visitor list. Whatever, it is another opportunity for us to step up and lead the sheep through the pandemic. We can shepherd in this upside down year in a way that brings 'growth and connection to God and one another'!



Opportunity for a Spiritual Leap

No one is sure what the next few months will bring. Will the virus spike or fade? Will people get sick or will they just get sick of COVID caution? Educated guesses abound, but no one knows for sure. In the past nine months, the Coronavirus has gone global affecting almost all countries, societies, and health systems. It is upsetting varying spheres of our social, political, or economical lives. It is also encroaching into our spiritual domain. Despite the lingering uncertainty, COVID-19 silently offers us an opportunity to reflect on the spiritual impact it has on the world and our communities. The spiritual impact is not clearly positive. However, I'm convinced that in the end, humanity, as a whole, can take a 'spiritual leap forward'.

Physical Disconnection but Global Connection

Christmas is a unique celebration of togetherness, Heaven with Earth, God with Man, man with man, God-man with creation. People need connection, need connected! Togetherness is celebration. Celebrations, by nature, our "together" events. That's why being "home for the holidays" is so meaningful. At special times, people want to be together with those they love, in small groups, like family units, and in large groups, like the church. At First Christmas, God called together a huge band of people: shepherds, and those they told, the magi. Up in the sky was a numerous angels. Holidays are holy days are for gathering together. But these are uncertain times. The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has been transforming the lives of millions of people in an unimaginable way. Changes have been taking place so quickly that most of the world's population have been caught unprepared. We are trying to adapt to this new reality in the hope that the pandemic will end soon, although it is impossible to predict how long it will last and what consequences it will have for all. In these days of crisis and home confinement WEhave been meditating on the MODE of celebration of Christmas.

People need Jesus in Advent Preparations

Christians especially Catholics need to worship and pray together. A wonderful event like Christmas that doesn't include experiencing Jesus will leave people feeling that something is

missing. Let us facilitate their hearts full of God and fulfilled. Advent is to be a season of preparations. Covid spell time of 2020 provides us an excellent opportunity to focus on Advent and developing faith practices in the home. Provide families the supplies to make simple advent wreaths. Let us provide them access to daily devotionals via Facebook Live, Watts up, Divyavani, etc. Have musicians record and share Advent hymns and the Scripture texts behind them. Even in Churches learn and modify with a socially distanced, masked carol sing, candle lighting, etc. The more technologically savvy can also offer a Zoom gathering time to provide needed fellowship during this season.

People need Visionary Pastors

Every church needs the Pastor to be a visionary leader, who says, “Let’s fight this battle”. Priests need to be creative to lead people to navigate the Christmas Season up to January 2021 that looks dangerous this year! We need to lead our communities to be bold and faith-filled. Inspire them to see how God is working and to have faith that he will give you wisdom to see you through the pandemic. Circumstances are different this year, but people’s needs are the same: we need a Christmas that builds up the church. No matter how hard we might try there is no way to make Christmas 2020 feel the way other Christmas celebrations in the past have. And accepting that truth should set us free to be creative and adaptive in our preparations. Let us plan to celebrate the incarnation of God among us in a way that serves our neighbour and keeps others and us safe and strong in faith!

How to Make this the Best Christmas Ever

We need adaptive leadership and make Advent/Christmas of 2020 one that is in future years remembered fondly because it was NOT like other years. COVID-19 curtails Worship Freedom but Kindles Faith. Human beings tend to turn to prayer in time of crisis. Unfortunately, religious places including churches, mosques or temples are being closed. People may turn hopeless: “Oh God, where do we go now”. Getting through these testing times will require a lot of ‘spiritual innovation’. The Ordained ministers play a major role in conducting Church services. However, a call to pray from home transfers greater responsibility to non-ordained members. Praying from home will bring in a faithful realisation that all can have access to God through Christ Jesus (Eph 2:18), and all have the priestly responsibility of interceding for other people to God (1Pet 2:9). Such a divine responsibility needs to be handled with faith. Though the COVID-19 crisis has brought the world to a halt and sadly, the health and economic impact will be disastrous, I feel that from a spiritual angle, the pros will outweigh the cons making us a global community with spiritual connectivity. In a way, COVID-19 is also a battle for our souls, a “spiritual battle for the 21st century”. It’s a battle which we will win, I believe so with the strength of the Incarnation of God Himself amidst us!!

***Wish You All A Special Christmas Celebration
Of Assurance of Overcoming the Disastrous Covid19 Pandemic!!!***

II. Holy Father's Intention

Prayer Intention for Evangelization-For a life of Prayer: we pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of Prayer

III. Pope Francis' Christmas Liturgies to Take Place without Public

Pope Francis' Christmas liturgies at the Vatican will be offered without public participation this year, as countries continue to react to the corona virus pandemic. According to a letter seen by CNA which was sent by the Secretariat of State to embassies accredited to the Holy See, Pope Francis will celebrate the Vatican liturgies of the Christmas season "in a private form without the presence of members of the diplomatic Corps." The letter, which was sent by the section for general affairs Oct. 22, said the liturgies will be streamed online. Diplomats accredited to the Holy See usually attend papal liturgies as special guests. Due to pandemic measures, including a two month nation-wide lockdown of Italy, Pope Francis also offered the 2020 Easter liturgies without the presence of the public.



Italy has seen a dramatic increase in positive corona virus cases, as well as increased hospitalizations and deaths, in recent weeks, leading the government to issue new containment measures, including the full closure of gyms and theaters, and a 6 pm closure for bars and restaurants except for takeout. Parties and receptions are also suspended. Since earlier this month, it has been mandated to wear face masks at all times in public, including outside. During Advent and Easter, the pope's schedule of public liturgies and Masses is usually particularly full, with thousands participating in Masses at St. Peter's Basilica. In past years the pope has offered a Dec. 12 Mass for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and a Dec. 8 ceremony and prayer at Rome's Piazza di Spagna for feast of the Immaculate Conception.

According to the 2020 schedule of public papal events published on the Vatican website, instead of a Mass Dec. 8, the pope will lead the Angelus in St. Peter's Square to mark the day. During the Christmas season, the pope usually says Midnight Mass for the Nativity of the Lord in St. Peter's Basilica Dec. 24, and on Christmas Day he gives the "Urbi et Orbi" blessing from the central loggia of the basilica. In past years he has also prayed First Vespers on Dec. 31 followed by a Mass on Jan. 1 for the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, both in St. Peter's Basilica.

These events are not listed on Pope Francis' public schedule for 2020, except for the Christmas Day "Urbi et Orbi" blessing. The pope is still slated to give all of his typical Angelus addresses and to hold the Wednesday general audience every week, except that of Christmas. The schedule of public events does not extend past December 2020, so it is unclear whether Pope Francis will publically celebrate any of the liturgies of January 2021, including Mass for Epiphany Jan. 6. It is also unknown if Pope Francis will next year baptize the children of Vatican employees and say a private Mass for them and their families for the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, per his tradition.

IV. Feast of St. Francis Xavier (Dec 3)

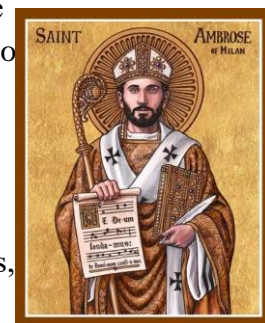
Jesus asked, “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?” (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honor before him. Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534 joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope.



From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Francis Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malayans, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India. Wherever he went, he lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy. Francis went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptize, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Therese of Lisieux were declared copatrons of the missions in 1925.

V. St. Ambrose (Dec 7)

One of Ambrose’s biographers observed that at the Last Judgment, people would still be divided between those who admired Ambrose and those who heartily disliked him. He emerges as the man of action who cut a furrow through the lives of his contemporaries. Even royal personages were numbered among those who were to suffer crushing divine punishments for standing in Ambrose’s way. When the Empress Justina attempted to wrest two basilicas from Ambrose’s Catholics and give them to the Arians, he dared the eunuchs of the court to execute him. His own people rallied behind him in the face of imperial troops. In the midst of riots, he both spurred and calmed his people with bewitching new hymns set to exciting Eastern melodies. In his disputes with the Emperor Auxentius, he coined the principle: “The emperor is in the Church, not above the Church.”



His sermons, his writings, and his personal life reveal him as an otherworldly man involved in the great issues of his day. Humanity for Ambrose was, above all, spirit. In order to think rightly of God and the human soul, the closest thing to God, no material reality at all was to be dwelt upon. He was an enthusiastic champion of consecrated virginity. The influence of Ambrose on Augustine will always be open for discussion. The *Confessions* reveal some manly, brusque encounters between Ambrose and Augustine, but there can be no doubt of Augustine's profound esteem for the learned bishop. Neither is there any doubt that Saint Monica loved Ambrose as an angel of God who uprooted her son from his former ways and led him to his convictions about Christ. It was Ambrose, after all, who placed his hands on the shoulders of the naked Augustine as he descended into the baptismal fountain to put on Christ.

VI. Immaculate Conception of Mary (Dec 8)

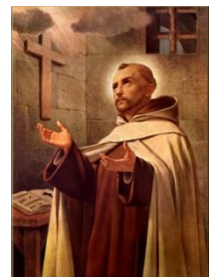
The angel Gabriel greeted Mary, "Hail, full of grace!" Normally at that time after greeting someone with "Hail" you would give them their title, so "full of grace" is actually a title or name that the angel Gabriel gives to Mary. And names were very important in that part of the world because your name told something about who you were. So "full of grace" describes Mary's very being. Mary was full of grace from the first moment of her existence when she was immaculately conceived. In the words of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, "God the Father made a gathering of all the waters and called it the sea; he made a gathering of all graces and called it Mary." Mary's first response to the greeting was being "greatly troubled."



The Greek word Luke uses to describe Mary's response is unique in the New Testament, but it is very closely related to the word used to describe Herod's response of learning of Jesus' birth, which was to be "troubled" so much he would try to kill Jesus. Luke also uses the word to describe Zechariah's response to the angelic message that he would be a father, and the Disciples' response when the resurrected Jesus appears to them. The Annunciation of God's work in our lives may cause us fear or overwhelming anxiety but it is also an invitation to believe. What God invites us to do and to believe may appear impossible. This is the intended point conveyed by Mary's "virginity." Here as throughout the Bible, God demonstrates he "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph 3:20).

VII. St. John of the Cross (Dec 14)

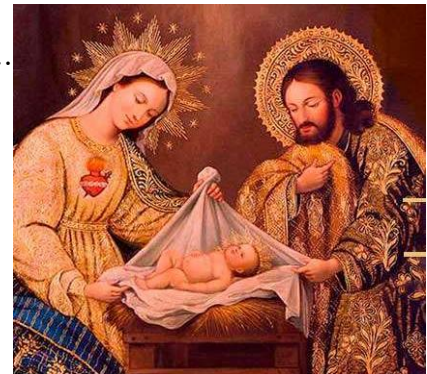
St John of the Cross, Juan de Yepes, was born at Fontiveros, near Avila, Spain, in 1542. He was the youngest of three sons. His paternal grandparents were successful merchants who rejected his father, Gonzalo, for marrying his mother, Catherine Alvarez, whom they considered below their rank. For love of Catherine, Gonzalo forfeited a rich heritage. Their decision to love each other, with its resulting poverty, left an indelible mark on the young saint. Thus, love and poverty became two inexhaustible sources of strength and inspiration



in the religious life of John of the Cross. Singleness of Heart : He who is in love is said to have his heart stolen or seized by the object of his love, for his heart will go out of self and become fixed on the loved object. Thus his heart or love is not for himself, but for what he loves. Accordingly, the soul can know clearly whether or not she loves God purely. If she loves Him, her heart or love will not be set on herself or her own satisfaction or gain, but upon pleasing God and giving Him honour and glory. In the measure she loves herself that much less she loves God. When God is loved He very readily answers the requests of His lover. Nothing is obtained from God except by love.

VIII. Nativity of the Lord (Dec 25)

“God’s sign is the baby in need of help and in poverty. Exactly the same sign has been given to us.... God’s sign is simplicity.... God’s sign is that he makes himself small for us. This is how he reigns. He does not come with power and outward splendor. He comes as a baby – defenseless and in need of our help. He does not want to overwhelm us with his strength. He takes away our fear of his greatness. He asks for our love: so he makes himself a child. He wants nothing other from us than our love, through which we spontaneously learn to enter into his feelings, his thoughts, and his will – we learn to live with and to practice with him that humility of renunciation that belongs to the very essence of love. God made himself small so that we could understand him, welcome him, and love him....”



Christmas has become the Feast of gifts in imitation of God who has given himself to us. Let us allow our heart, our soul, and our mind to be touched by this fact!” (Pope Benedict XVI). By the love of God, Jesus came to touch and save us, take away our sins by reconciling us with God (1 Jn 3:5). By the love of God, he gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life (Jn 3:16). By the love of God, Jesus makes us partakers of the divine nature, become the son of God (2 Pt 1:4; CCC: 460). The Word of God becomes flesh in Jesus (Jn 1:1-18). This portrays God’s love not distant but draws near to us, giving us the opportunity to become children of God (Gal 3:26). To become a child of God, let us open ourselves to practice the qualities of: trust, humility, obedience, a forgiving spirit, as well as dependence on the will of God. Instead of seeking prestige and status, he requires us that we humble ourselves, get rid of our self-given importance which is measured on the basis of worldly values. Rather we are asked to find our true vocation in obedient service of: 1) Light: You can attract people to Christ when you have His light in your life and be light shining in the midst of darkness by sharing your goodness to others of the love of God to the unlovable. 2) Show compassion by touching anger to healing and forgiveness. 3) Be in communion with others especially in the family, and parish community involvement. 4) To make the most of Christmas, focus on Christ by sharing your faith in God who became man in the child Jesus. Merry Christmas!

IX. Saint Stephen (Dec 26)

Saint Stephen is recognized as a saint and the first martyr in Christian theology. He was condemned for committing blasphemy against the Jewish Temple, and was stoned to death circa the year 36. Saint Stephen is a recognized saint in many Christian theologies, and is considered to be the first Christian martyr. According to the fifth book of the Bible's New Testament, the Acts of the Apostles, Stephen was denounced for blasphemy after a dispute with members of a Jewish synagogue circa the year 36. According to Chapters 6 and 7 of the Book of Acts, he was condemned and stoned to death the scene of which was depicted in Dutch artist Rembrandt's "The Stoning of Saint Stephen." Today, Western Christians annually celebrate "St. Stephen's Day" on December 26.



X. The holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph (Dec 27)



Feast of the Holy Family, is also every family's feast day, since the Holy Family is the patron and model of all Christian families. Today should be a huge family feast, since it is devoted entirely to the Holy Family as a model for the Christian family life. As Rev. Edward Sutfin states: "The children must learn to see in their father the foster-father St. Joseph, and the Blessed Mother as the perfect model for their own mother. The lesson to be learned is both practical and theoretical, in that the children must learn how to obey and to love their parents in thought, word and action, just as Christ was obedient to Mary and Joseph. Helping mother in the kitchen and in the house work, and helping father in his odd jobs about the home thus take on a new significance by being performed in a Christ-like spirit."

XI. Feast of Holy Innocents (Dec 28)

Herod "the Great," king of Judea, was unpopular with his people because of his connections with the Romans and his religious indifference. Hence he was insecure and fearful of any threat to his throne. He was a master politician and a tyrant capable of extreme brutality. He killed his wife, his brother, and his sister's two husbands, to name only a few. Matthew 2:1-18 tells this story: Herod was "greatly troubled" when astrologers from the east came asking the whereabouts of "the newborn king of the Jews," whose star they had seen. They were told that the Jewish Scriptures named Bethlehem as the place where the Messiah would be born. Herod cunningly told them to report back to him so that he could also "do him homage." They found Jesus, offered him their gifts, and warned by an angel, avoided Herod on their way home. Jesus escaped to Egypt. Herod became furious and "ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under." The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children..." (Matthew 2:18). Rachel was the wife of Jacob (Israel). She is pictured as weeping at the place where the Israelites were herded together by the conquering Assyrians for their march into captivity.



XII. Bishop's Engagements in the Month of December, 2020

1	:	World AIDS' Day
3	:	Feast Mass at St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary, Karunapuram
5	:	Webinar on FCRA Amendments 2020
6	:	Assisi Parish: Marian Grotto Blessing: Mass in New Church
7	:	Holy Matrimony at Fatimanagar
8	:	Solemnity of Immaculate Conception of Mary am: Blessing of Maria Matha Shrine, Nalgonda pm: Silver Jubilee of St. Antony's Church, Tilaknagar, Kazipet Parish
12	:	CCBI Executive Committee Virtual Meeting
13	:	United Mega Christmas Celebration, Fatima Cathedral
16	:	Clergy Christmas Recollection, Bishop Beretta High School
17	:	Advent II: Christmas Novena begins: Christmas Carol Competition, Dharmasagar
19	:	CRI Christmas Recollection
20	:	Banjara Christmas Celebration, Sanigapuram, Mahabubabad
21	:	Priestly Golden Jubilee of Archbishop Thumma Bala
25	:	Christmas Vigil Mass: Fatimanagar Divyavani Live Telecast
27	:	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

January- 2021

1	:	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God English New Year Vigil Mass, Cathedral
3	:	Solemnity of Epiphany of the Lord Installation of Archbishop Poola Antony, Secunderabad

XIII. Communications

1. Most Rev. Dr. Thumma Bala, Archbishop of Hyderabad Retires:

His Holiness Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Most Rev. Thumma Bala (76) from the pastoral care of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, Telangana on 19 November, 2020. Archbishop Thumma Bala was born on 24 April 1944, in Narimetta, Warangal Diocese. He was ordained priest on 21 December 1970. At the age of 42 he was appointed the second Bishop of Warangal on 17 November 1986 by Pope St. John Paul II and he was ordained Bishop on 12 March 1987. Pope Benedict XVI appointed him at the age of 66 as the Archbishop of Hyderabad on 12 March 2011. He was installed as the tenth Archbishop Hyderabad on May 5, 2011.



Before appointing as the Bishop he was the rector of St. Paul's Regional Catechists' Training Centre, Nuzivid, Vijayawada diocese from 1978-1980. Professor of Catechetics at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad from 1984 – 1986. Procurator at St. John's Regional Seminary Hyderabad from 1984-1986.

As a Bishop he was the Chairman of Telugu Regional Youth Commission from 1987-1995. Chairman of Jyotirmai Society from 1990 to 1995. Chairman of Regional Catechetical Commission: 1987-1995. Chairman of CBCI Health Commission 2002-2006. Member of Pontifical council for Health Care Apostolate, Vatican: 2002 -2007. He holds Licentiate in Pastoral Theology Catechetics from Pontifical Salesian University, Rome (1980-1983). He is a priest for 49 years and a Bishop for 33 years

2. Congratulations to Most Rev. Anthony Poola, New Archbishop of Hyderabad

His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed Most Rev. Anthony Poola (59), currently Bishop of Kurnool, as Archbishop of Hyderabad, Telangana on Thursday, 19 November, 2020. Bishop Anthony Poola was born on 15 November, 1961, at Chindhukur, Andhra Pradesh. He joined the minor seminary in Kurnool and then studied at St. Peter's Pontifical Major Seminary, Bangalore. He was ordained priest on 20 February, 1992. At the age of 46 he was appointed as the Bishop of Kurnool on 8 February, 2008 and was ordained Bishop on 19 April 2008.



He has served in the following ministries: 1992-1993: Assistant at St. Mary's Cathedral, Maria Puram, Kadapa; 1993-1994: Assistant Parish Priest at Amagampalli; 1994-1995: Parish Priest at Tekurpet, Correspondent RCM Elementary Schools, Chinayarasal & Kappalapalli; 1995-2000: Parish Priest of Our Lady of Fatima Church, Badvel, Director St. Thomas Boarding Home, Badvel; 2000-2001: Parish Priest of Holy Cross Church, Veerapally; Correspondent RCM UP School, Veerapally and Konasamudram, Director – Vander Valk Boy's Boarding Home; 2001-2002: Resident priest at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo Diocese, U.S.A.; 2002-2003: Associate Pastor at St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Chicago; 2003-: Coordinator for CFCA – Secretary for Education Society, Deputy Manager, RCM Schools, Diocese of Cuddapah, Editor of CFCA Samachara Lekha; 2008-: Bishop of Kurnool; 2008-2015: Chairman for Youth Commission Telugu Region; 2008-2015: Chairman for Scheduled Castes/Backward Classes Commission; 2008-2020: Chairman for Andhra Pradesh Social Service Society; 2014-2020: Secretary General and Treasurer of Telugu Catholic Bishops' Conference; 2014-2020: Chairman of the Sikh Village Campus, Secretariat for TCBC Priests Community; 2014-2020: Chairman for Jeevan in-state Printing Press. He is a priest for 28 years and a Bishop for 12 years.

3. Government announces new Covid-19 guidelines from 1 December, states to enforce strict containment measures:

Amid surge in Covid-19 cases in some states of the country and Central government's efforts to contain the spread, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued an order Wednesday (November 25, 2020) with guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution, which will be effective from December 1, 2020 and to remain in force till end of the month. MHA also mandated states to strictly enforce containment measures, SOPs on various activities and COVID-Appropriate behavior and exercise caution and regulate crowds. "The main focus of the guidelines is to consolidate the substantial gains that have been achieved against the spread of COVID-19 which is visible in the steady decline in number of active cases in the country," the ministry said in a statement. Local district, police and municipal authorities shall be responsible to ensure that the prescribed Containment measures are strictly followed. States and UTs, based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local restrictions, with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Here is a lowdown on the new guidelines issued by the Centre:

COVID-Appropriate behaviour

The ministry also directed that states and UTs government shall take all necessary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and to ensure strict enforcement of wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing. In order to enforce the core requirement of wearing of face masks, States and UTs may consider administrative actions, including imposition of appropriate fines, on persons not wearing face masks in public and work spaces. For observance of social distancing in crowded places, especially in markets, weekly bazaars and public transport, MoHFW will issue a SOP, the statement further read. National Directives for COVID-19 Management shall continue to be followed throughout the country, so as to enforce COVID-19 appropriate behaviour.

Strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs

All activities have been permitted outside Containment Zones, except for the following, which have been permitted with certain restrictions:

- International air travel of passengers, as permitted by MHA.
- Cinema halls and theatres, with upto 50 percent capacity.
- Swimming pools, only for training of sports persons.
- Exhibition halls, only for business to business (B2B) purposes.
- Social/ religious/ sports/ entertainment/ educational/ cultural/ religious gatherings, with upto a maximum of 50 percent of the hall capacity, with a ceiling of 200 persons in closed spaces; and keeping of the size of the ground/ space in view, in open spaces.

"However, based on their assessment of the situation, State/ UT Governments may reduce the ceiling to 100 persons or less, in closed spaces," MHA further said,

Protection for vulnerable persons

Vulnerable persons, i.e., persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years, are advised to stay at home, except for meeting essential requirements and for health purposes.

4. Annual Returns for the year 2020, from January to December: All Parish Priests and Heads of the Institutions are requested to start preparing Annual Returns for the year 2020 from January to December, which are to be sent to Rome in the First Quarter of 2021. Forms of Annual Returns will be sent to you by post. If you don't get by post, please contact Chancellor & Procurator or Secretary to Bishop, and get the forms by all means. After receiving the forms, please fill them correctly & fully and send them latest by end of January to the Chancellor & Procurator or Secretary to Bishop.

5. Christmas Recollection: In preparation for Christmas, a recollection is arranged for the clergy at Bishop Beretta High School on 16th of December, 2020, starting at 9.30 am. All the Priests are requested to participate in it. Because of the Covid-19 spell, we shall follow all Regulations of government and more!

6. Ordos 2021: Ordos 2021 is available at Bishop's House. Please avail to celebrate liturgy in the holy and meaningful manner!

7. Condolences to Fr. G. Naveen and Bereaved Family



The Diocese was saddened to hear the news of the death of Gangarapu Kanthamma, the Mother of Rev. Fr. G. Naveen. She passed away at Hyderabad at the age of 75 at 7.00 am on November 20, 2020. The Diocese conveys heartfelt condolences to Rev. Fr. G. Naveen, Parish Priest of Parkal and the bereaved family members. We Pray God grant 'May her soul rest in peace'.

8. Lodi MSSS

Sustainability Program, Devarappula Mandal: Devarapulla Jana Jeevana FPO seeds, fertilizer and Pesticides shop was inaugurated by Fr. D. Vijaya Paul, Director, Lodi MSS Society, Mrs. Radhika, ADA, Palakurthi, and started at Kammareddigudem village, Devarapulamandal with 300 farmers membership and share amount and selling paddy seeds through FPO. Loans given to 6 women for Rs. 1,20,000 for agriculture development and income generation program from Jana Jeevana Women federation. 65 farmers prepared Jeevaamrutham

and waste decomposer to promote organic farming methods in 65 acres of land. Distributed vegetable seeds to 110 farmers and distributed 8 varieties of vegetable seed to each farmer from 16 project villages.

Food Security project, Chilpur Mandal: In this month we have organized a training program to farmers on Promotion of multi cropping, traditional crops and vegetable gardens. We have conducted 10 training programs and 324 farmers were attended. In this month we have organized a training program on Organic Farming IPM/NPM methods and conducted 8 trainings attended 328 farmers. We have distributed backyard poultry to 170 farmers and women.

Educational and nutrition support to the HIV Children: In this month of November, Lodi have distributed, **Educational supplies** – Note books and stationary items- pens, pencils and etc.

Nutrition support – Dhal, Refined Oil, wheat power, Black grams, Groundnuts, Toor dal, Sugar, Jaggary, Dettal soaps and etc. The support is given to 207 HIV infected and affected children who are studying from 1st class to Degree. These children belong to different villages of Warangal diocese.

Fr. D. Vijaya Paul, Lodi MSSS

9. Fatima Cathedral Parish

a. Closing ceremony of Marian Month

“The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times” ~Saint Padre Pio

On 31st October 2020, Fatima Cathedral Church marked the final day of Marian month. The Eucharist celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, the Bishop of Warangal Diocese along with other priests. Two other prominent Priests Rev. Fr. Arlagadda Joseph TCBC Secretary and Rev. Fr. P. Sudhakar Amruthavani Director were also present. During the celebration, Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala unveiled the Amruthavani Bible Dairy 2021 and Daivarchana Ganaamrutham song book. All the faithful fervently prayed for the heavenly blessings through the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration ended with offering of lighted candles.



b. All Souls Day

“The life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living.” –Marcus Tullius Cicero

On 2nd November 2020, All Souls Day Eucharist Celebration took place at Fatima Cathedral Cemetery. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, the Bishop of Warangal Diocese along with other priests. During the Celebration, His Grace, Most

Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala prayed for all the Departed souls especially for the souls in Purgatory. After the Eucharistic celebration, all the faithful departed souls' tombs were blessed.



c. Mission Sunday

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15)

On 8th November 2020, Fatima Cathedral church celebrated the Mission Sunday. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, the Bishop of Warangal Diocese along with other priests. Keeping in mind, the rules and regulations of the government because of the pandemic Covid 19, the celebration was limited to Holy Eucharist, Lucky Draw and Auction. All the faithful actively participated and prayed for Bishops, Priests, Sisters and Brothers for bringing the Good News through their lives.

Fr. Kasu Marredy, Parish Priest

10. Pastoral Centre

1. Animators' meeting was held on 6th November 2020. There are thirty members attended the meeting. All the animators discussed about the pastoral ministry in the Covid-19 situations.

2. Fatimanagar Denary level online recollection was taken place in Pastoral center on 12th November 2020. All the priests in the denary attended. Fr Gopu Kamal shared his personal experience and importance of Word of God.

3. On 14th November 2020 Pastoral Centre welcomed the deanary wise singing competition. The participants felt the good atmosphere created by the event organizers of St. Cecilia Music Academy.

4. Marriage Preparation Course and Counseling was conducted on Second Saturday and Fourth Saturday i.e. on 14th and 28th of November 2020. On 14th forty one members attended for MPC. During the Pandemic i.e. COVID-19 situation, we strictly follow SMS (Social distancing, Mask, Sanitization) in pastoral center. Rev. Fr. Y Chinnappa Reddy, the Director of MPC with the help of Fr. Santhosh and team guided and suggested the program and the program went on well.

NB: 1. Marriage preparation course on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month.

2. Please collect calendars for the year 2021

3. Christmas Materials and Bible Dairies are available at Pastoral center.

4. For any Advent Programs and Christmas programs you are Most Welcome!

5. For any pastoral needs you can approach Fr. Gopu Kamal, Pastoral Center Director.

Fr. Gopu Kamal Kumar Reddy, Director

11. Youth Centre

On 14th November Arunodaya youth director and committee conducted children's day program in Subedary Ashram. In charge sister and other staff welcomed us. We started with prayer and team members spoke with children and distributed sweets and fruits to the children. We sincerely thank Parish Priest Rev Fr. Y Inna Reddy and FMM Sisters.

On 21st November we had youth meeting in Waddeply Parish. It was parish level meeting organized by waddepally parish priest Rev Fr Ambati Bala. He called some officials to give guide lines to the youth for their future development. He also invited Arunodaya youth director and committee. The officials are from Vidya Jyothi degree college aluminum settled in various departments. They spoke about career guidelines. Fr Thomas also spoke with youth and encouraged them. Around 120 youth participated in this program. Fr Ambati Bala took initiative and arranged very systematically. Arunodaya youth center took interest and motivated the youth We sincerely thank Fr A. Bala Parish Priest of waddepally and all the guest who participated.

Fr Thomas Gopu, Youth center

12. SC, ST & BC Commission, Warangal Diocese

Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, Bishop of Waranagal himself celebrated Mass at Fatima Cathedral on this occasion of Dalit liberation Sunday on November 8, 2020. And under his guidance Dalit liberation Sunday celebrated the in different parishes, like St. Peter's Colony Parish, Ghanpur Parish, Assisinagar Parish and other Parishes of Warangal Diocese.



Theme of the day is “Challenging Caste: affirming the dignity of Dalit Women”. On the day the focus was mainly on the Dalit women who are suppressed and oppressed in the society and also in the Dalit community. Special Mass, Prayers celebrated in the Main Stations and also substations. People actively participated and prayed earnestly for the cause. All the SC, ST Commission members headed by Fr. K. Vijay Kumar motivate the people to fight for the cause. SC, ST commission members Fr. T. Jerome, N. Surender, Mr. Dayasagar, Mr. L. Johnson actively participated and motivated the people to partake in the event.

**Fr. K. Vijay Kumar Francis
Secretary, SC, ST, Commission**

13. St. Cecilia Feast ['Kreesthu Swarabhishekam-2020']

As we all Knew that our Lordship Most Rev Dr.Udumala Bala DD, Chairman (SCMA) & Bishop of Warangal Diocese has begun St.Cecilia's Music Academy (SCMA) for our Diocese in the Year 2019 Officially. For this Year St.Cecilia's Feast, Celebrated on 22nd November 2020, as a part of preparation for the Mega Musical Evening-Academy core committee members happened to visit 6 Deaneries-Parish and Village Choir groups with the help of Deans, Deanery and Parish Coordinators.

On 14th of this month we have conducted Group Singing Competitions for all the Deaneries together at 2 different Venues such as at Pastoral Centre and Fatima Community hall. Overall 76 Groups had actively participated from which 20 selected groups are been called to present for the feast day celebrations. His Lordship Dr.Udumala Bala was the Chief Guest for the 'Kreesthu Swarabhishekam', he had inaugurated a worth of Rs 1,20,000 cost Musical Instruments and presented them to Music academy.



Many Faithful Music Lovers, talented Singers and Musicians of our Diocese witnessed the program, Our Bishop had appreciated all the winners with a memento and a appreciation certificates, he also spoke out about the sacred music and its importance in the Liturgy and also in Christian life.

Rev. Fr N. Surender, Director SCMA

14. WADES

WADES run schools have been organizing on line / off line classes for a few months. Relentless efforts were made in making students to attend classes. Different tactics were applied to attract students but it is reported that the attendance is on average between 25 - 30% only. There might be many reasons for that. However it is very discouraging to the staff. It is felt that their efforts are in vain. It also has an effect on fee collection and payment of remuneration. We only hope and look forward to improvement of this Pandemic COVID-19 situation to be able to run educational institutions as usual.

Fr. M. JayaPaul, DM – WADES

15. United Mega Christmas Celebration



Date: 13th of December 2020; **Time:** 6.30 pm

Venue: Fatima Cathedral Ground, Fatimangar, Kazipet, Warangal Urban

Chairman: Bishop Udumala Bala **Co-Chairman:** Bishop Daniel Kalyanapu

General Convener: Rev. Dr. K. Vijay Kumar (Director of WIMS- Medicare)

Co-Convener: Rev. Dr. D. Isaac-President TCF

16. United Mega Christmas Invitation

అందరికి ఆహ్వానం Welcome to All

“సకల జనులకు పరమానందము కలిగించు శుభ సమాచారమును మీకు బిలిపించెదను” లూకా 2:10

Pray For Warangal ! Pray For Telangana ! Pray For India

TRI-CITY'S UNITED MEGA
CHRISTMAS
Celebrations
తేదీ: 13-12-2020
త్రినగర ఐక్య మెగా క్రిస్మస్ వేడుకలు-2020
సా: 6.30 గంటలకు, ఫాతిమా కెథెడ్రల్, ఫాతిమానగర్, కాజిపేట - వరంగల్ జిల్లా

కథోలిక శ్రీ సభ, త్రినగర క్రైస్తవ సహావాసం, బాప్టిస్ట్, పెంటెకోస్టల్, దక్షిణ భారత సంఘం, స్వతంత్ర సంఘాల ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఐక్య మెగా క్రిస్మస్ వేడుకలు జిల్లాలోని క్రైస్తవులంతా కోలాహలంగా, భక్తి శ్రద్ధలతో దేవునికి మహిమ ఘనత కలుగులాగున పురుషులు, స్త్రీలు, యువతీ యువకులు, పిల్లవాచలతో పాల్గొని “ఐక్య మెగా క్రిస్మస్ వేడుకలను” విజయవంతం చేయాలని ప్రభు నామమున కోరుచున్నాము.

Chairman: Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, **Co-Chairman:** Rev. Bishop Daniel Kalyanapu
Vice – Chairman: Bishop John Markandeya, Rev. G. Ravi Kumar, Rev. Kurian, Rev. Joseph Prabhakar, Rev. Fr. Kasu Marreddy
Cultural Committee: Co-ordinator: Mr. John Bunney, **Co - coordinator:** Rev. Fr. Inna Reddy
Choir & Music: Rev. Fr. A. Bala, Rev. Fr. N. Surender, Mr. N. Praneel, Dr. Balavari Samson
Members: Rev. Fr. D. Raja, Rev. Fr. M. Jayapal, Rev. Fr. M. Anand, Rev. Fr. Y. Inna Reddy, Rev. Fr. D. Vijaypaul, Rev. Fr. G. Martin, Rev. Fr. G. Thomas, Rev. Fr. G. Kamal, Rev. Fr. K. Joseph, Rev. Fr. P. Raja, Rev. Fr. T. Jerome, Rev. Fr. P. Francis, Rev. Fr. Bartholomew, Rev. Fr. Y. Kiran, Rev. F. G. Suresh, Rev. Fr. Simon, Rev. Samson, Rev. Manda Kumar, Rev. Sravan Kumar, Rev. D. Martin, Rev. John Mark, Rev. Nikil John, Mr. T. Mathias Reddy, Mr. R. Rajmohan Rao, Mr. B. Dayasagar, Mr. A. Ramesh, Mr. M. Rayappa, Mr. Gopu Mathias Reddy, Mr. Zaddu Rayappa Reddy, Mrs. N. Jyothsna, Mr. T. Prasangi, Mr. S. Deenadayal, Dr. T. Christopher, Mr. Polepaka Immanuel, Mr. Ratna Raju.

General Convener: Rev. Dr. K. Vijay Kumar (Director-WIMS-Medicare),
Co-convener: Rev. Dr. D. Isaac (President-TCF)


Holy Christmas
Blessed New Year-2021

Let us Earnestly Pray “Christmas Brings Vaccince to Fight Covid-19”
Till then Kindly Follow Covid-19 Regulations !


17. United Mega Christmas Celebrations Competitions

ఐక్య క్రిస్మస్ మేగా వేడుకల పోటీలు - 2020
UNITED GRAND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
 13 డిసెంబర్ 2020, సా. 6.30 గం||లకు, ఫాతిమా కళ్యాణ్, ఫాతిమానగర్లో జరగబోయే
 "ఐక్య క్రిస్మస్ వేడుకలకు" అందరికీ ఆహ్వానం! ఈ వేడుకలను పురస్కరించుకొని వివిధ
 పోటీలు నిర్వహిస్తున్నాం. ప్రతి పోటీకి రిజిస్ట్రేషన్ రుసుము రూ. 100/-
 పోటీల వివరాలు ఈ క్రింద ప్రకారంగా ఉంటాయి:


క్ర. సం.	అంశం	తేదీ	సమయం	స్థలం	సంప్రదించవల్సినవారు ఫోన్ నెం.
1.	పాటల పోటీ (5 కంటే ఎక్కువ సభ్యులు పాల్గొనవచ్చును.	03-12-2020	ఉదయం 9గం ల నుండి సా. 4గం ల వరకు	ఎక్వేషియా గాస్పల్ మినిస్ట్రీస్ సిద్ధార్థనగర్	రెవ.ఫా. ఎ. బాల 9441604005 రెవ.డి. మార్టన్ 7337403837 శ్రీ ప్రణీత్ 9885956703
2.	క్షుప్త ప్రసంగం (5నిమిషాలు) అంశం: "క్రీస్తుజయంతి పరమార్థం"	04-12-2020	ఉదయం 10గం ల నుండి సా. 5గం ల వరకు	యేరూషలేం బాప్టిస్టు చర్చి సర్క్యుట్ హౌస్ హన్మకొండ	రెవ.జాన్ మార్క్ 9849638914 డా. బాలవారి సామ్సన్ 9603511100
3.	బైబిల్ క్వీజ్ లూకా సువార్త (6-8 మంది బృందం)	05-12-2020	ఉదయం 9గం ల నుండి మ. 12గం ల వరకు	పాస్టరల్ సెంటర్ ఫాతిమానగర్	రెవ.ఫా. జి. కమల్ 9398221049 రెవ. జోసఫ్ ప్రభాకర్ 9849614731 యం. రాయప్ప 9491318150
4.	కొరియోగ్రఫి (6-8 మంది బృందం)	06-12-2020	ఉదయం 9గం ల నుండి సా. 5గం ల వరకు	ఎక్వేషియా గాస్పల్ మినిస్ట్రీస్ సిద్ధార్థనగర్	రెవ.ఫా.జి. సురేష్ 7702520239 శ్రీ జి. రత్న రాజు 8985223999



శ్రీ.జాన్ బన్నా
కోఆర్డినేటర్, కల్చరల్ కమిటీ
సెల్: 9177553008



రెవ.ఫా.ఆర్. ఇన్నారెడ్డి
సహకోఆర్డినేటర్, కల్చరల్ కమిటీ
సెల్ : 9985576622



కావిడ్-19 నిబంధనలు తప్పక పాటించాలి.

18. Banjara Christmas Celebrations-2020

Venue	Yesu Gutta, Sanigapuram
Date	20-12-2020
Time	10.00 am to 3.00 pm
<u>Time Table</u>	
10:00 am	Procession (Sanigapuram to Yesu Gutta)
10: 45 am	Holy Mass
12.30 pm	Cultural Programs
2.00 pm	Lunch



Birthday Babies in December

Fr. G. Chinnappa	12-12-1985
Fr. G. Balaswamy	19-12-1965
Fr. Y. Bala	19-12-1967
Fr. G. Thomas (Sr)	30-12-1978

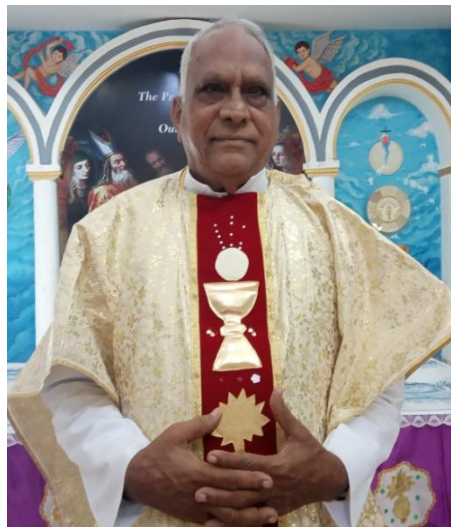
Priestly Ordination Anniversary

Fr. I. Abraham	21-12-1967
Fr. B. Mathias: Golden Jubilee	18-12-1970
Fr. A. Prakash: Golden Jubilee	29-12-1970

Congratulations to Fr. B. Mathias: Priestly Golden Jubilee



Congratulations to Fr. A. Prakash: Priestly Golden Jubilee





THANKS

To Most Rev. Dr. Thumma Bala, Archbishop of Hyderabad Retires

CONGRATULATIONS

To Most Rev. Anthony Poola, New Archbishop

