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BISHOP'S PROGRAMME FOR JUNE 2024

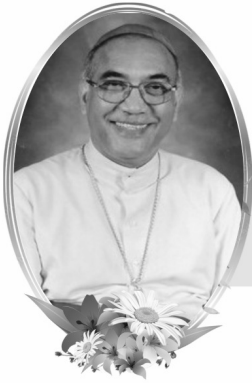
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|-------|------------|---|
| 1-2 | | Pastoral Visit, Belloor |
| 3 | 10.30 a.m. | <i>Lectio Brevis</i> , St Joseph Seminary |
| 4 | 09.00 a.m. | Meeting the Regents, Pastoral Institute |
| 7 | 05.00 p.m. | Adoration and Festal Mass, Cloistered Carmel |
| 9 | | Pastoral Visit, Permude |
| 13 | 06.00 p.m. | Feast of St Antony, Milagres Church |
| 15-16 | | Pastoral Visit, Eliarpadavu |
| 17 | | Episcopal Ordination, Goa |
| 22-23 | | Pastoral Visit, Milagres |
| 27 | 10.30 a.m. | Concetta Hospital Trust Meeting, Bishop's House |

Bishop Meets in the Forenoon:

Diocesan Clergy, 11; Religious, 24; Lay faithful, 25



We priests are Bartimaeus, and each morning we get up and pray: 'Lord, that I may see.' We priests are, in some point of our sinfulness, the man beaten by the robbers. And we want first to be in the compassionate hands of the good Samaritan in order to be able to show compassion to others with our own hands (Pope Francis, Homily, Chrism Mass, April 18, 2019).



Happy Birthday

June 21, 2024

Most Rev. Aloysius Paul D'Souza
Bishop Emeritus of Mangalore

We celebrate your Birthday and Patronal Feast day with great joy, but we also rejoice in your unwavering dedication to God's work. May your life continue to be a beacon of faith, hope and joy, and may you enjoy good health, happiness, and continued strength to serve the Lord.

Happy Feastday

June 29, 2024

Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

Happy Feast of your Heavenly Namesakes,
your Patron Saints, Peter and Paul,
“whom the grace of God has raised to such a
height among all the members of the Church that
He has set them like twin lights of eyes in that
Body whose head is Christ”
(St Leo the Great). So be you!



BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR JUNE 2024

Papal Intention for June: The Pope invites the whole Church to pray for the migrants who flee from their home country to protect themselves from war and hunger and encounter danger and violence. The fatherly concern demands that they be received with kindness and compassion by providing opportunities for a dignified life. Let us not forget the last and least around us. The Commission for Migrants can plan and execute special activities for this month.

Bull of Indiction of Ordinary Jubilee 2025: In *Spes non confundit*, “Hope does not disappoint” (9 May 2024), Pope Francis announces that the Jubilee Year will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter’s Basilica on Christmas Eve, 2024. The Pope underlines that the Jubilee be a time to rediscover, proclaim, and build hope. “In the course of the year,” Pope Francis writes, “every effort should be made to enable the People of God to participate fully in its proclamation of hope in God’s grace and in the signs that attest to their efficacy” (n. 6).

Later, on 29 December 2024, the Pope will open the Holy Door of the Archbasilica of St John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome. On the same day, every Cathedral and co-Cathedral throughout the world will have Mass celebrated by the local Bishop to mark the opening of the Jubilee. In our Diocese, we shall celebrate the inaugural Mass in the Cathedral on this day.

The Jubilee will end in the particular Churches throughout the world on 28 December 2025. And finally, the Jubilee Year will draw to a close in Rome on the Solemnity of Epiphany, 6 January 2026.

Granting of the Indulgence: During the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025, the Pope invites all Christians to become *pilgrims of hope* and receive the gift of the Indulgence, which “is a way of discovering the unlimited nature of God’s mercy.” The heavenly Father, “through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him or her from every residue left by

the consequences of sin.” All the faithful, who are truly repentant and free from any affection for sin, who are moved by a spirit of charity and who, during the Holy Year, purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion, pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence. The remission and forgiveness of all their sins thus obtained can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory. As *pilgrims of hope*, the penitents can pass through the Holy doors mentioned in the Decree of Granting Indulgence or visit the people in need as an act of charity. There is a unique spiritual offer this time: “Despite the rule that only one plenary indulgence can be obtained per day (cf. *Enchiridion Indulgentiarum*, IV ed., norm. 18, § 1), the faithful who have carried out an act of charity on behalf of the souls in Purgatory, if they receive Holy Communion a second time that day, can obtain the plenary indulgence twice on the same day, applicable only to the deceased.” Let us instruct our faithful to read and understand this decree, which explains so beautifully how we can obtain spiritual benefits.

Laity Sunday (30 June 2024): The Lay Faithful are co-responsible with the Hierarchy in carrying out the mission of the Church. There are so many different charisms and ministries! But no matter what they are, it’s always the same Spirit who gives them to us to build up the Church. All have received a Christian vocation, and it is a call that empowers everyone to actively and creatively perform their apostolic task within the Church. The Laity, with their expertise and experience, can contribute much in carrying out the one mission of the Lord. May this Sunday become a wonderful occasion to recognize and encourage the Lay faithful to participate assiduously in the Lord’s mission. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus and his Precious Body and Blood be their strength and consolation.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

NOTE THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE DCP

On account of Covid-19 situation at the proposal made by the Council of Priests, the annual contribution from Parish/Church Halls to DCP from Halls was reduced from 10% to 5% for three years, which period ended with 2022-23 (cf. *Inter Nos*, October 2021, pp. 250-251). Therefore, starting with the Financial year 2023-24, Parish Priests/Parochial Administrators are directed to pay the amount at 10% towards DCP.

ELECTION TO THE NEW COUNCIL OF PRIESTS

The Constitution of the Council of Priests of the Diocese of Mangalore has been revised and approved by the Bishop and came into effect on May 31, 2024.

Taking into account the new norms, the Vicars Foranes are requested to elect the representatives for the Council of Priests from their respective Vicariates. Likewise, the Episcopal Vicar will be in charge of the election from among the religious priests in the diocese.

Please send the details of the election before **July 10, 2024**, in the following format:

- 1) The total number of priests in the Vicariate:
- 2) The total number of representatives for the Vicariate:
- 3) The date and place of the election:
- 4) The number of electors present at the election session:
- 5) The name of the priest elected and the votes he received:
 - i)
 - ii)
- 6) The name of the priest who conducted the election:

Please do not delay, as we intend to hold the first meeting of the new Council of Priests on August 01, 2024.

TRANSFERS AND PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS

1. Rev. Fr Maria Julian, SDB, is appointed Parish Priest of Holy Cross Church, Pavur, with effect from May 24, 2024.
2. V. Rev. Bonventure Nazareth is appointed Vicar Forane, Episcopal Vicariate, for a three-year term with effect from June 1, 2024
3. V. Rev. Rudolf Ravi D'Sa is appointed Vicar Forane, Pezar Vicariate, for a three-year term with effect from June 1, 2024
4. The Vicar Foranes who have completed their three-year term of office, unless they have lost the office of the Parish Priest in the Vicariate, are granted an extension for their second term.
5. The following seminarians of Mangalore Diocese will be doing their Regency:
 - a) Aaron D'Souza at Our Lady of Dolours Church, Bela
 - b) Joel Fernandes at Gladsom Home for Students, Bolar
 - c) Joseph Johnson Pais at St Antony's Church, Naravi
 - d) Melrick D'Souza at Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi
 - e) Rostan Fernandes at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Panir

Bishop of Mangalore

THE NEW DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024-2025

We intend to bring out the new Diocesan Directory in July 2024. We invite all Parish Priests and Religious Superiors to send us updated information or corrections. We request that Parish Priests check the current Directory under their respective parishes, institutions, and religious houses to see if the data is in order. Please take the initiative to contact the heads of schools, institutions, and religious houses in their parish, collect the information required, and send it to us.

Changes due to transfers and appointments made by the Bishop this year will be incorporated, and they do not need to be

sent. Regarding phone/mobile numbers, it is sufficient to provide the one phone number that is always available. Please double-check the email and website information. Kindly send only the changes, updates, or corrections. Be sure to reference the appropriate page number(s) in the current Directory.

Please submit the changes/corrections to be made in the Diocesan Directory not later than **June 20, 2024**, at the latest. You may email them to: bp.mangalorediocese@gmail.com

Late submissions will not be included in the Directory. We to thank you in advance for your prompt attention and cooperation.

Chancellor

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE OF MANGALORE

I. Preamble

The bonds of communion and affection which exist between the Bishop and his presbyterium are expressed liturgically when the priests concelebrate with the Bishop. It is expressed functionally by the need for the Bishop to have regular and serious discussions with his priests, individually and collectively, on pastoral matters. Priests are the necessary helpers, cooperators, and counsellors of the Bishop and witnesses to the “mystery of communion”, which is the Church, especially through fraternity, fidelity, and docility. Hence, their communion in the same priesthood and ministry of service demands that the Bishop “gladly listen to them, indeed consult them, and have discussions with them about those matters which concern the necessities of pastoral work and welfare of the diocese” (*Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 7).

The Code of Canon Law, which gives juridical expression to the theology of the relationship between the Bishop and his priests, prescribes that every diocese should have a Council of Priests (Presbyteral Council), which represents the presbyterate and is to be like a senate of the Bishop, assisting him in governing

the diocese. This Council is governed by canons 495-501 of the Code of Canon Law. The diocesan Bishop has the prerogative to convene the Council, preside over it, and determine its agenda. Since the Council of Priests is founded on the common participation of the Bishop and his priests in the same priesthood and ministry, its membership is reserved to priests alone. The Council of Priests has a specific place in the overall synodal dynamic of the local Church, whose spirit animates it and whose style shapes it.

While the Council of Priests should have its own norms approved by the Bishop (can. 496), this Constitution of the Council of Priests of the Diocese of Mangalore, while being drawn up in conformity with the Code of Canon Law and the norms established by the Episcopal Conference, draws its inspiration and pastoral direction from the Decrees of the Second Vatican Council II (*Lumen Gentium*, 28; *Christus Dominus*, 28; *Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 7), *Motu Proprio Ecclesiae Sanctae* of Pope Paul VI (1966), the Letter of the Congregation of the Congregation on the Council of Priests (1970), the Document of the Synod of Bishops *Ultimis Temporibus* on the Ministerial Priesthood (1971), the Instruction *Ecclesiae de Mystero* of various Dicasteries (1997), Post-synodal Exhortation *Pastores Gregis* of Pope John Paul II (2003), the Directory *Apostolorum Successores* of the Congregation for the Bishops (2004), and the Instruction of the Congregation for the Clergy on the Pastoral Conversion of the Parish Community in the Service of the Evangelising Mission of the Church (2020).

II. Description and Nature

The Council of Priests of the Diocese of Mangalore is a group of priests who, representing the presbyterium assists the Bishop in the pastoral work, apostolic mission and governance of the diocese in a spirit of synodality and according to the norm of law in order to promote as much as possible the pastoral good of the portion of the People of God entrusted to him. The Council has only a consultative vote and is, therefore, of an advisory nature, without the power to act in its own right.

III. Purpose

- 1) To give institutional expression to the hierarchical communion

- between the Bishop and the presbyterate, based on the unity of the ministerial priesthood and the ecclesial mission.
- 2) To provide for the full and free discussion of all issues of pastoral concern in the diocese and to exchange ideas and experiences and determine clear objectives for the exercise of various diocesan ministries, proposing priorities, developing a concrete diocesan pastoral plan, and suggesting pastoral methods.
 - 3) To assist the Bishop according to the norm of law in the pastoral governance of the diocese.
 - 4) To seek and propose ways and means for effective pastoral ministry with other consultative bodies and with the Bishop.
 - 5) To be representative of the unity, diversity and needs of the priests to the Bishop.
 - 6) To foster fraternity, communion, teamwork, priestly spirituality, and solidarity among the clergy of the diocese and promote a consciousness of unity with the Bishop.

IV. Functions

- 1) To discuss and make proposals on matters:
 - i. Pertaining to changes proposed by the Holy See in making appropriate changes and decisions for the local Church.
 - ii. Concerning the implementation of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan.
 - iii. Assisting the Bishop in reviewing, elaborating and, with the Bishop's approval, initiating general policies on pastoral-administrative matters.
 - iv. Coordinating the various ministries that are being exercised in the diocese, especially with regard to the ministry and life of priests.
 - v. Making recommendations for the pastoral and missionary formation of the seminarians of the Diocese of Mangalore and suggesting areas of ongoing formation of the clergy.
 - vi. In-depth study of the special pastoral issues affecting the diocese or concerns referred to it by the Bishop.
- 2) To advise the Bishop in matters, he is obliged to consult it (*audito consilio*) relating to the following:
 - i. The advisability of convoking a diocesan synod (can. 461 §1)
 - ii. The erection, suppression, or alteration/modification of parishes (can. 512 §2)

- iii. The establishment of norms concerning the allocation of voluntary offerings received by the priests from the faithful in the exercise of their ministry and the remuneration of the clergy (can. 531)
- iv. The establishment of pastoral councils in parishes (can. 536 §1)
- v. Granting permission for the construction of a new church (can. 1215 §2)
- vi. Granting of permission for a church to be converted to secular or profane purposes, but not for sordid use, when grave reasons suggest that a church can no longer be used for divine worship (can. 1222 §2)
- vii. The imposition of a tax for the needs of the diocese on public juridic persons subject to the Bishop; also, the imposition of an extraordinary and moderate tax for very grave needs on other juridic persons and on physical persons (can. 1263)
- viii. The establishment of a group of Parish Priests in a stable manner to deal with the transfer and removal of Parish Priests (can. 1742 §1).

3) Varia:

- i. The Bishop appoints not less than six and not more than twelve members to the College of Consultors from among the members of the Council of Priests (can. 502). The College of Consultors is governed by its own Statutes.
- ii. The meetings of the priests of the Vicariate presided over by the Vicar Forane, have a great role in the agenda of meetings of the Council of Priests as well as in implementing the proposals of the Council that the Bishop has approved.

V. Membership

The Council of Priests shall be composed in such a way that the entire presbyterate is duly represented. There shall be three types of members in the Council of Priests. They are (a) ex-officio, (b) elected, and (c) nominated members.

- 1) The Ex-Officio Members shall be the following:
 - i. The Vicar General

- ii. The Episcopal Vicars
 - iii. The Judicial Vicar
 - iv. The Chancellor
 - v. The Procurator
 - vi. The Vicars Forane
 - vii. The Director, Pastoral Institute
 - viii. The Vocation Director
 - ix. The Secretary, Catholic Board of Education
 - x. The Diocesan Coordinator of the Pastoral Commissions
- 2) The Elected Members shall be as follows:
- i. The elected members will be in proportion to the total number of priests incardinated in the Diocese of Mangalore and serving in each Vicariate (that is, excluding religious and retired priests): **Up to 10**, one representative, and for each additional ten, one additional representative.
 - ii. The representation from among the religious priests shall be proportionate to the number of religious priests serving in the diocese: **Up to 25**, two representatives, and for each additional 20, one additional representative. Of the total number elected, at least one shall be from among those serving in the parishes as Parish Priest.
 - iii. The priests of the Diocese of Mangalore who are officially retired shall **elect one** representative from among themselves.
- 3) The Nominated Members: The Bishop shall freely nominate not more than five priests to the Council of Priests. If no one from (i) junior priests (up to 10 years of ordination), (ii) priests who teach in schools, and (iii) priests in diocesan institutions is represented, the Bishop may consider nominating one from each category.

VI. Elections

- 1) Elections shall be held in each Vicariate and shall be conducted by the Vicars Forane.
- 2) Religious priests in the Diocese of Mangalore shall elect their representatives under the direction of the Episcopal Vicar for Religious.

- 3) The Vicar General or his delegate will conduct the election of the representative of the retired priests.
- 4) Vacancies that occur after the process of transfer is complete or loss of membership in any other way, as specified in the Constitution, shall be filled as soon as possible, preferably before the next meeting of the Council of Priests.
- 5) The results of the above elections shall be reported to the Bishop within ten days.
- 6) Each member shall be elected by a secret ballot with a majority of 50% plus 1 of the valid votes cast by the voters present at the meeting.

VII. Mode of Elections

Rules to be followed for election of members to the Council of Priests:

- 1) When the Bishop gives notice of an election, the Vicars Forane shall convene an electoral meeting of all the priests working in the Vicariate in compliance with art V.2.(i) of this Constitution, indicating the day, time and place of the meeting.
- 2) In order to hold an electoral meeting/session, the majority of all those to be summoned to vote must be present. The majority in this case - the quorum - means more than half of the eligible electors (namely 50% + 1).
- 3) The election is to be by a secret ballot, with a majority of 50% plus 1 of the valid votes cast (abstentions and invalid votes are discarded and do not count in the total). Personal attendance at the election meeting is required. Absentee voting by mail or any other means is not permitted.
- 4) All the priests of the presbyterium have active and passive votes, except for those who are prohibited by law or by the decree of the Bishop.
- 5) The election procedure laid down in canon 119 shall be followed:
 - (i) On the first ballot, the candidate who obtains the required majority (50% + 1 of the valid votes cast) is elected.
 - (ii) If the required majority is not obtained in the first ballot, a

second ballot shall be held. If the required majority is not obtained in the second ballot and no one is elected, a third ballot shall be held with only the two candidates who obtained the highest number of votes in the second ballot. If more than two have received the highest number of votes, the two most senior in age shall be chosen as candidates for the third ballot.

- (iii) On the third ballot, the candidate with the greater votes (relative majority) shall be declared elected. If there is still a tie (same number of votes for both), then the one senior in age shall be declared elected.
- 6) The Vicar Forane should see that the proceedings of the election are carefully recorded by a Secretary of the meeting, chosen in advance, who will make a note of the names and the votes cast in each ballot.
- 7) This entire election record and proceedings are to be sent to the Bishop within ten days after the election.

VIII. Office Bearers

- 1) The President: The Bishop of Mangalore is the ex-officio President of the Council of Priests.
- 2) The Secretary and the Joint Secretary: These shall be elected by the Council of Priests with a majority of 50% + 1 of the valid votes cast. If no one is elected in the first round, a second round will be held between the two candidates who received the highest votes in the first round. The one who receives a relative majority is elected.

IX. Duties of Office Bearers

- 1) The Bishop shall preside over the meeting of the Council of Priests. In the absence of the Bishop, the Vicar General, with the mandate of the Bishop, shall preside.
- 2) The Secretary shall convene the meeting in consultation with the President, record the proceedings, prepare a report of the activities, communicate the same to the members of the presbyterium, and act as the Secretary/Joint Secretary of the Executive Committee.

- 3) The Joint Secretary shall assist the Secretary and, in the absence of the Secretary, shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

X. Term of Office

- 1) The term of the Council of Priests shall be for three years, after which the Bishop shall constitute a new Council.
- 2) The ex-officio members shall retain their membership as long as they hold the respective offices that made them members of the Council.
- 3) The term of office for both elected and nominated members shall be for three years, at the end of which new elections shall be held.
- 4) The term of office of the Secretary and the Joint Secretary shall be for three years, notwithstanding the change of Vicariate by transfer.
- 5) Vacancies caused by unjustified absence, resignation, transfer, removal, deprivation or change of Vicariate shall be filled either by election or nomination or by the ex officio appointee.
- 6) The term of membership of those who join the Council by virtue of vacancies created during the unexpired terms of members shall be for the remainder of the term of the Council.

XI. Duties of the Members

- 1) Members shall regularly attend and actively participate in the meetings of the Council and shall serve on Council Committees/ Commissions as requested. They shall inform the Council Secretary as soon as possible in advance if they are unable to attend a meeting for a legitimate reason.
- 2) All members shall express their opinions freely and sincerely, subject to the modalities of the meetings.
- 3) The members shall present and adopt constructive, responsible, and far-sighted positions, having at heart only the good of the diocese and rising above any narrow individualism.
- 4) They must have a willingness and commitment to spend time studying and reading material relative to matters which concern the necessities of pastoral work and the welfare of the diocese.

- 5) The members must maintain secrecy so that the Bishop himself may make public those matters which have been decided in the Council.

XII. Cessation of Membership

Membership of the Council of Priests shall cease:

- 1) When the term of the Council of Priests, which lasts 5 years, has expired, the Council ceases to exist when the Bishop declares it so.
- 2) By the law itself (*ex iure* when one of the circumstances stated in canon 194 is verified.
- 3) By death, by resignation duly accepted as per canon 189, by removal or by deprivation of office for a grave reason.
- 4) The membership of an *ex-officio* member terminates with the loss of the office by virtue of which he became a member of the Council.
- 5) Unjustified absence from three consecutive meetings shall *ipso facto* terminate the membership in the Council of Priests.

XIII. Committees

- 1) ***Executive Committee:*** There shall be an Executive Committee of the Council of Priests consisting of the President, the Vicar General, the Episcopal Vicar, the Secretary, the Joint-Secretary and three other members elected by the members of the Council of Priests by a relative majority.
 - (i) The Executive Committee proposes the agenda (topics to be discussed) for the Council of Priests and has it approved by the President.
 - (ii) The Executive Committee processes the topics received from the Vicariates at the beginning of the year, prioritizes them according to the needs of the year, publishes them well in advance, prepares the background material, and presents the agenda for the meeting.
 - (iii) The Executive Committee shall review and follow up on the implementation of resolutions.
- 2) ***Ad-hoc Commissions:*** The Council of Priests may propose the formation of Ad hoc Commissions with specific mandates, as needed, to implement the resolutions or to study and make recommendations on issues presented to it.

- (i) Unless otherwise determined, members of a Commission shall be recommended by the Council and appointed by the Bishop. While the leadership of the Commissions as Convener or Moderator shall be vested on a member of the Council of Priests, other membership on the Commission need not be limited to the presbyterate when circumstances require and when it is advantageous to do so.
- (ii) Commission shall submit to the Council's approval those policies and procedures related to their scope of responsibility.

XIV. Meetings

- 1) No meeting of the Council of Priests shall be held without the Bishop present or his explicit mandate.
- 2) After consultation with the Bishop, the Secretary shall send the notice of the regular meeting at least two weeks in advance, clearly stating the date, time and place of the meeting.
- 3) The quorum shall consist of 50% + 1 of the total membership of the Council of Priests.
- 4) All matters of the Council shall be decided by consensus unless the Bishop decides to hold a secret ballot on the issues, and the votes obtained shall be at least 50% + 1 majority of the valid votes cast.
- 5) Three ordinary meetings shall be held in each calendar year (March/April, June/July, October/November).
- 6) Extraordinary meetings may be convened as and when the President deems it necessary, or when the Council of Priests decides in the previous meeting to have it, or when more than half the members of the Council of Priests request it.
- 7) If the Council of Priests rejects a proposal, it shall not be reconsidered for the next one year, unless two-thirds of the majority of the members of the Council of Priests request it.

- 8) Vicariate meetings shall normally precede the meeting of the Council of Priests.
- 9) The dates and topics of the meetings of the Council of Priests should be determined, preferably at the beginning of the year.
- 10) The Bishop may invite non-members to participate in the Council with no consultative vote but only to assist as resource persons or to share their insights at the Council proceedings by virtue of their specific competence.

XV. Conduct of Meeting

- 1) Each meeting shall have a Moderator appointed well in advance by the Executive Committee. He shall moderate the discussion and direct the proceedings. He will give the members the right to speak. He shall, when necessary, put resolutions to a vote and announce the results. He shall rule on points of order, and his decision shall be final.
- 2) A member who intends to make an important intervention on which he intends to speak must give notice at least three days in advance of the meeting.
- 3) A member may speak on the subject of the agenda with the permission of the Moderator, who may set a time limit for the speaker.
- 4) A member may raise a point of order at any time, which shall be decided immediately.
- 5) There shall be a zero hour at each meeting in order to call attention to the emergent questions.
- 6) Resolutions of the Council shall become effective upon the affirmative vote or consensus of a majority of the members of the Council and the approval of the Bishop. All resolutions requiring action items shall specify (a) the manner of implementation, (b) the person or persons responsible for implementation, and (c) a timetable for implementation.

XVI. Review

- 1) A review of the performance of the Council of Priests may be held once a year.

- 2) The implementation of the proposals and suggestions of the previous meeting of the Council of Priests shall be reviewed at each subsequent meeting.

XVII. Dissolution of the Council

- 1) When the See is vacant, the Council of Priests ceases to exist, and its functions are taken over by the College of Consultors (can. 501 §2).
- 2) If the Council of Priests does not carry out the function entrusted to it for the good of the diocese, or if it seriously abuses its functions, the diocesan Bishop, after consulting the Metropolitan, may dissolve it but must reconstitute it within one year (can. 501 §3).

XVIII. Amendments and Interpretation

- 1) The Bishop may, on his own initiative, propose changes to the Constitution of the Council of Priests and seek the opinion of the Council before implementing them.
- 2) The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Council, provided that the amendment has been presented in writing at the previous meeting of the Council, accepted as an agenda item for the next meeting and recorded in the minutes. To be effective, the Bishop must approve any amendment.
- 3) It is for the Bishop alone to give an authentic interpretation of the norms of the Constitution.

XIX. Approval and Promulgation

By virtue of my authority as Bishop of Mangalore, I am pleased to approve and promulgate this revised Constitution of the Council of Priests on May 14, 2024, the Feast of St Matthias, the Apostle.

This Constitution comes into effect on May 31, 2024, on the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the previous Constitution is abrogated.

V. Rev. Victor G. D'Souza
Chancellor

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

**REPORT OF
THE PASTORAL CONSULTATION – 2024**
held on 20-21 March 2024 at St Antony’s Charity Institutes
Jeppu

THEME: PASTORAL ISSUES

Prayer and Welcome: The Pastoral Consultation began with a prayer led by Fr Stany Pereira, Vicar Forane of Bela, followed by a welcome from Bishop Peter Paul Saldanha. After the welcome, the Bishop invited everyone to spend a few moments in silence to pray for the deceased priests of the diocese.

Session One: *Pastoral Issues: Matters related to Priests:* The first session was devoted to priest-related issues. These included the personnel board, priests in distress, transfers, higher studies, etc. Fr Walter D’Souza, Parish Priest of Alangar, presented the questions sent by the Vicariates. The Bishop and the Vicar General shed light on many of the issues. Regarding the suggestions of some priests of a vicariate that priests in distress should be adequately rehabilitated, the Vicar General responded that the Bishop had taken adequate care of all the priests of the diocese, especially when a priest was in distress. When they were sick, the Bishop saw to it that they were admitted to FMMCH for treatment. When it comes to priests who have problems in the parishes, the Bishop said that he has greatly helped the priests. He said that he also contacts the Vicars Forane of the Vicariates and tries to provide as much support as possible.

Personnel Board: Several priests had expressed the need to have a Personnel Board for the priests of the diocese so that it would help to streamline the aptitudes and interests of the priests in their ministry, and accordingly, they could be directed to such ministries in order to increase their work efficiency. The Bishop replied that the matter could be taken up with the College of Consultors and the Council of Priests in the coming days.

Session Two: *Pastoral Issues concerning Masses in Shrines and other places of worship, lay preachers, retreats, etc.* The

issues were presented by Fr Nelson Almeida (Maniampare) and responded to by Fr J. B. Saldanha (Bejai). Regarding Masses in the Shrines, the Bishop said that a Commission had been formed to study this issue, and it had presented its report and proposals. The details of the Commission report will have to be worked out in the coming days. Regarding lay preachers, it was noted that lay preachers are often seen preaching in churches and meetings, and as a result, there is some confusion as to whether they have the necessary authorization from the ecclesiastical authorities. The Bishop responded by saying that he had taken the necessary steps to prevent some of the preachers from preaching in the churches and that others had been asked to lead only the intercessory prayers under the leadership of the priest who should be present. However, there may be some preachers who are deviant in their preaching and take advantage of gullible people. But it is the duty of the Parish Priests to watch out for them and to inform the authorities and the people about these preachers.

Session Three: *Pastoral issues related to youth, pastoral commissions and basic ecclesial communities.* The topics were presented by Fr Gratian Alvares (Kuppepadav) and answered by Fr Bonaventure Nazareth (Milagres). Regarding the Pastoral Commissions, it was noted that 21 Pastoral Commissions were created three years ago. However, since some difficulties were noted during the evaluation period two years ago, certain modifications were made, such as the grouping of the 21 commissions under four types of ministries. Now, there seems to be a return to maintaining 21 commissions.

There were also questions about tensions between parish associations and pastoral commissions. Fr Faustine Lobo responded by saying that it is not the number of commissions but that 21 commissions were formed to address 21 needs of the diocese. Regarding the tensions that arise between parish associations and pastoral commissions, we need to catechize the association leaders as well as the commission secretaries about their specific roles and mission. The Bishop clarified the reasons for the formation of the commissions. It is the universal way of functioning

in the Church. In addition, the pastoral plan is based on the work of the pastoral commissions at the national and regional levels.

Second Day: Thursday, 21 March

The first session of the second day was dedicated to issues concerning finance, education, CMA, and property matters.

The issues were presented by Fr Ivan (Vitla) and responded to by Fr Ronald D'Souza (Procurator), Fr Antony Serra (CBE), Fr Maxim Rosario (Estate Manager). Regarding the **property**, the question was raised about the rights of the mulgeni and the position of the diocese in this matter. Fr. Maxim Rosario, the property manager, informed the house that the mulgars had gone to court – but the verdict was in favour of the tenants. However, the mulgars have now appealed against the verdict. The general norm that is followed in any transaction is that 2/3rd is for the one holding mulgeni right and 1/3rd right for the mulgar. Thus, we have two ways to proceed: either buy the 2/3rd muli right or sell our 1/3rd varg right. But people are not willing to pay 1/3rd of the value, so we need to negotiate well.

Finance: Several questions were asked regarding the finances. For example, why do we need to send accounts to the diocese when they have already been checked by the Parish Finance Council and also by the Auditor? The Vicar General responded by saying that the Bishop is the President and is in charge of the diocese. He has a right to know the temporal affairs of churches under him. The Vicar General also observed that DCP contributions don't remain with the diocese; they are distributed according to the needs of the poor parishes of our diocese.

Educational Matters: Fr Antony Serra responded to the questions concerning the schools and the education ministry in the diocese. Fr Shera noted that our schools are for the good of all people from different communities. Our mission with regard to the apostolate of education is still relevant in spite of the challenges that lie ahead. When it comes to closing schools and colleges, we have to plan well in advance and take the necessary steps.

Session Two: *On Liturgy and Catechetics*: The questions or issues were presented by Fr Francis Crasta (Loretto), and the response was from Fr Vijay Machado. On the question of the revision of the Missal and Lectionary in Konkani, Fr Vijay Machado noted that the work is in progress; it has been delayed due to certain unforeseen problems. We are not sure when it will be completed. Regarding the vestments for the Advent marriage, Fr Vijay Machado noted that the norms are published in the Ordo. He added that the Ritual Masses are permitted during the weekdays of Advent, and all parts of the Ritual Masses are to be followed, except on the Sundays of Advent and Lent, when we must wear the prescribed vestments and use the prescribed liturgy. Some other questions concerning the Mass were clarified. These include the following: The Creed will be recited after the prayers of the faithful on Sundays for Wedding Masses according to the Rite of Matrimony.

Regarding the funeral rite, it was proposed that we must follow a common order, namely, the prayer after communion, the eulogy, and then the rite of commendation. If it is a scheduled parish Sunday Mass, then the Mass ends with a blessing, followed by the eulogy, and then the priest proceeds to the Rite of Commendation. Regarding the question of the place for the prayers of the faithful, the norms prefer that they be read from the ambo since they are part of the Liturgy of the Word and are not to be equated with the announcements so as to be read from the announcement stand.

The jubilarians were greeted after the formal sessions. The Bishop read the names of those celebrating 75 years of age and 50 years of priesthood. Frs Gregory Serrao and Leo Veigas had completed 75 years, Frs Andrew Lewis, Valerian Pinto and Wilfred Gonsalves had completed 50 years of priesthood, and Monsignor Aloysius D'Souza was in his 100th year of age. All the jubilee priests had expressed their inability to be present for the greetings. The Bishop noted their untiring service to the diocese, expressed his gratitude for their person and their steadfast service, and promised his prayers for their well-being.

Bishop's Message: The Consultation concluded with the Bishop's Message. In his message, the Bishop made the following points: We are called to be Shepherds after the heart of Jesus. As priests, we act *in persona Christi capitis*, which is a noble mission entrusted to us priests. We must be grateful and responsible to carry out this mission. In order to be able to cope with the challenges we face every day, we need to be constantly renewed.

Vote of Thanks: Fr Joseph Martis, the Secretary of the Council of Priests, thanked all those present and all those who had actively contributed to the good and smooth functioning of the Consultation. He thanked the Bishop, the Vicar General, the host Fr John Baptist Crasta and his collaborators, all the moderators, the secretaries Fr Kenneth and Fr Vishal, the MCs Frs Lohith and Vivek and all the participants. The Consultation concluded with a sumptuous meal. The afternoon programme was held in the Rosario Cathedral, where a recollection talk by Fr Daniel Veigas O.P. was followed by confession and adoration, and finally, the Chrism Mass.

**Rev. Fr Joseph Martis, Secretary
Council of Priests**

Recommended Reading:

- 1) "Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena," issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, on May 17, 2024
- 2) "Decree on the Grating of the Indulgence during the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 Called by His Holiness Pope Francis," issued by the Apostolic Penitentiary, on May 13, 2024.
- 3) "Declaration *Dignitas Infinita* on Human Dignity," issued by Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, on April 02, 2024.

The documents are on the website: vatican.va

S.S.L.C/CBSE results for the year 2023-2024
DAKSHINA KANNADA

Under the management of the Catholic Board of Education

S. No.	School Name	Percentage	No. of Students	No. of Distinctions	First Class
1	Pompei High School, Urwa	100%	28	1	14
2	St. Victors Girl's High School, Puttur	100%	242	65	156
3	Anugraha English Medium School, Ujire	100%	70	27	43
4	St. Joseph English Medium High School, Kulshekar	100%	99	40	57
5	St. Thomas English Medium School, Alangar	100%	59	15	37
6	Sacred Heart English Medium School, Madanthyar	100%	55	33	21
7	Holy Family English Medium School, Surathkal	100%	128	61	66
8	Saverapura English Medium School, Sampaje	100%	38	9	23
9	St. Lawrence English Medium School, Bondel	100%	84	33	46
10	Nithyadar English Medium School, Nithyadarnagar	100%	54	17	31
11	St. Mary's English Medium School, Uppinangadi	100%	44	9	35
12	St. Rita's English Medium School, Vittal,	100%	62	20	37
13	St. Ann's English Medium School, Kadaba	100%	74	26	48
14	Loretto English Medium School, Loretto	100%	33	19	14
15	Mt.Carmel English Medium School, Shirtadi	100%	37	19	16
16	Holy Spirit English Medium School, Mukka	100%	47	15	26

S. No.	School Name	Percentage	No. of Students	No. of Distinctions	First Class
17	Holy Saviour English Medium School, Agrar	100%	33	18	10
18	Holy Redeemer English Medium School, Belthangadi	100%	41	17	18
19	Deva Matha English Medium School Amtoor,	100%	67	20	40
20	Infant Mary English Medium School, Katipalla	100%	61	21	36
21	St.Paul English Medium School, Naravi	100%	39	11	23
22	St. Ignatius English Medium School, Paladka	100%	25	6	19
23	St.Patrick English Medium School, Siddakatte	100%	26	8	14
24	St. Jude English Medium School, Pakshikere	100%	45	13	27
25	Lourdes Central School, Bejai (CBSE)	100%	196	134	44
26	Milagres Central School, Mangalore (CBSE)	100%	59	15	30
27	St Mary's Central School, Kinnigoly (CBSE)	100%	60	39	15
28	St. Joseph's English Medium School, Sullia	99.09%	111	48	59
29	St. Sebastian English Medium School, Permannur	98.73%	79	19	43
30	Naravi High School, Naravi	98.44%	64	12	36
31	Infant Jesus English Medium School, Modankap,	98.30%	60	16	36
32	St. Joachim's High School, Kadaba	97.82%	46	26	16
33	St. Peter Claver English Medium School, Arva,	97%	36	18	15
34	St. Lawrence High School, Karopady, Vijayadka	96.15%	26	0	5
35	Padua High School, Mangalore	96.15%	78	11	47

S. No.	School Name	Percentage	No. of Students	No. of Distinctions	First Class
36	Sacred Heart High School, Madanthyar	96.11%	103	10	56
37	St. Rita English Medium School, Cascia	96%	52	5	33
38	St. Antony Kannada Medium School, Amtoor,	96%	25	5	13
39	St. Aloysius English Medium School, Urwa	95.45%	130	40	62
40	St. Philomena High School, Darbe, Puttur	95.12%	205	18	115
41	St. Joseph High School, Bajpe	94.86%	155	28	81
42	Kulur High School, Mangalore	94.28%	33	2	17
43	Cascia High School, Mangalore	93%	57	5	29
44	St. Ann's English Medium School, Kelarai	91%	23	7	12
45	St. Sebastian's High School, Permannur	88%	81	4	38
46	Milagres High School, Mangalore	86.44%	59	1	20
47	Rosario High School, Mangalore	85.71%	70	2	24
	TOTAL		3299	988	1703
S.S.L.C/CBSE results for the year 2023-2024 KERALA under the management of the Catholic Board of Education					
1	St. Monica Eng. Med School Kumbala (CBSE)	100%	16	3	10
2	St. Mary's High School, Bela	100%	27	4	23 (other grade)
3	Infant Jesus English Medium School, Manjeshwar	100%	41	4	37 (other grade)
4	Udaya Higher Secondary School, Manjeshwar	98.15%	54	3	50 (other grade)
	TOTAL		138	14	120

**S.S.L.C results for the year 2023-2024 UDUPI
under the management of the Catholic Board of Education**

S. No.	School Name	Percentage	No. of Students	No. of Distinctions	First Class
1	St. Lawrence PU College (High School), Moodbelle	100%	44	8	28
2	St. Joseph High School, Belman	100%	35	11	19
3	St. Mary's High School, Kundapura	100%	41	5	26
4	St. John's High School, Shankerapura	100%	41	6	31
5	St. Mary's PU College (High School Sec), Shirva	96.07%	51	3	29
6	St. Lawrence High School, Karkala, Attur	91.67%	24	3	13
7	St. Francis Xavier High School, Udyavara	90%	20	1	11
8	St. Mary's High School, Udupi	89.18%	37	0	14
9	Milagres High School, Kallianpura	81.81%	33	1	17
	TOTAL		326	38	188

**P.U.C results for the year 2023-2024 in D. K.
under the management of the Catholic Board Education**

1	Anugraha P.U.College, Ujire	100%	37	5	25
2	Sacred Heart Pre-University College Madanthyar	98.80%	258	46	176
3	Padua Pre-University College, Mangalore	98.40%	308	49	226
4	St. Philomena P.U.College, Darbe, Puttur	98%	609	191	366
5	St. Joseph's Pre-University College, Bajpe	96.34%	164	13	103
6	Pompei Pre-University College, Kirem, Aikala	96%	155	56	76
7	St. Joachim's P.U.College, Kadaba	95.60%	91	13	53
8	Milagres Pre-University College	95%	248	8	134
9	St. Antony P.U.College, Naravi	94.11%	85	22	51
10	St. Sebastian Pre-University College Permannur	93%	282	29	158
	TOTAL		2237	432	1368

MANGALA JYOTHI

I. Programmes in June 2024

- 2 : Inauguration of the Catechetical Year – Parish Level
- 2 : Adult Catechesis on Liturgy and Lectors' Training, Nala Parish
- 9 : Newly Selected Catechists/Teachers Training, Mangala Jyothi
- 10-16: CCBI Office – Catechetics and Directors Catechetical Course – Goa
- 15 : Training of Clergy on Catechetics, Karwar Diocese
- 23 : Newly Selected Extra Ordinary Ministers' Training, Mangala Jyothi
- 26-30: CCBI Office - Catechists Training and Clergy Training, Diocese of Miao

II. Commission for Catechetics - Information

1. **The New Catechetical Year 2024** begins on 02 June 2024. The inaugural service has already been sent to you in a pdf form through the WhatsApp group.
2. **Catechetical Material for Catechists:** We have a Bible-based syllabus for Sunday Catechism. Apart from these textbooks, kindly refer to our newly published value education textbook series and school catechism textbooks.
3. **Registration of Student Data Online:** As in previous years, you are requested to do the mandatory registration - student details online by visiting www.mangalajyothi.com/ parish login / Sunday Catechism students data. Kindly complete the process (from I Std. to X Std.) before 30 June 2024. For any queries, contact Mangala Jyothi - Department of Catechetics - 7019522940
4. **The Training of the Newly Selected Catechists** will be held at Mangala Jyothi on 9 June 2024 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration fee Rs. 150/-. Register the names before 06 June 2024. Certificates will be given to the participants.

5. **Sunday/School Catechism Textbooks:** The Sunday/ School Catechism, Value Education textbooks and catechetical materials are available in the Mangala Jyothi Book Stall.
6. **Mangala Jyothi Bulletin and Circulars:** A separate bulletin/circular has been sent to all heads of institutions and Parish Priests by 25 May 2024. It contains the Inaugural Service and other important information related to Catechetics, Liturgy and Bible Apostolate. Please keep the copy in the office file.
7. **School Catechism and Value Education 2024:** Parish Priests are to see that Catechism and Value Education are organised in the educational institution under their jurisdiction. It has come to our attention that some institutions are not conducting catechism/ value education for all classes except for VII and X. Kindly pay attention to this ministry. Please ensure that all students acquire the textbooks by 10 June 2024.
8. **Report of the Catechetical Year 2023-24:** The Deanery Priest Coordinators are requested to send the annual report to the Mangala Jyothi Office before 20 June 2024. Deans are requested to appoint new Priest Coordinators if there is none or if the previous one has been transferred.
9. **Deanery-Wise Follow-up- Orientation for Catechetical Teachers:** The Deanery Priest Coordinator is requested to organize at least one follow-up programme per year that includes annual evaluation, sharing of experiences, introduction to new catechetical documents, etc.
10. **YOUCAT Ministry and Study:** I request youth animators/priests/religious to introduce the YOUCAT study in their meetings. Kindly encourage PUC, especially YCS units, as well as other youth members of your parish, to possess a YOUCAT copy and YBible. For any assistance or training for your youth group, please get in touch with the Director, Mangala Jyothi.

III. Commission for Liturgy - Information:

1. **The Training of Extraordinary Ministers** will be held on 23 June 2024 at Mangala Jyothi from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration fee is Rs. 150/-. Please register the names before 15 June 2024.
2. **Online Registration (Reminder):** Update the data of the Extraordinary Ministers online regularly on our website www.mangalajyothi.com/parish_login/extraordinary_ministers_data.
3. **File Maintenance (Reminder):** All the Parish Priests are requested to maintain a separate file for the extraordinary ministers. Collect the photocopies of the certificates from the members and obtain the faculty from the Bishop.

Director, Mangala Jyothi

PROGRAMMES OF CODP

- 01.06.2024 : Welcoming of Assistant to CODP,
Rev. Fr Lawrence Cutinha
- 03.06.2024 : CODP Office and Field Staff Training in CODP,
KROSS Meeting in Bangalore
- 05.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration and Awareness in
Moodbidri
- 08.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Putthige
- 15.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Vorkady
- 16.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Kumble
- 18.06.2024 : CODP Office and Field Staff Training in CODP
- 21.06.2024 : Local Resource Mobilization in Talapady and
Kotekar, Environment Day Celebration in
Kokkada
- 22.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Putthige
- 23.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Saya

24.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration and Awareness in Bajpe

27.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Manjeshwar

28.06.2024 : Environment Day Celebration in Kumbdaje

2. Lenten Contribution from Parishes:

We humbly urge those parishes (54 are still pending) who have not yet remitted the 2024 Lenten Contribution (March-April) to do so directly to CODP. Please remember to inform CODP as soon as you send your contribution.

Account Name	CODP (Regd)
Bank	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK
Branch	PADAVU
Account Number	157201000000015
IFS Code	IOBA0001572

The Lenten contributions received from parishes, convents, and institutions *will be published* in the *Inter Nos* of July 2024.

3. Voice of Gratitude

The generous Lenten contributions of the families of the Diocese of Mangalore, Institutions, Convents, Donors of *Moga Na'llo* and the substantial contributions of Mr. Michael Dsouza (Philanthropist, NRI) and his family have made the Diocesan Housing Plan Phase 1 a grand success.

We were able to complete 75 new houses and 55 renovations at a cost of Rs 3,11,31,000 (Rupees Three Crore Eleven Lakh and Thirty-One Thousand only) as on 31.5.2024. A total of 130 families in the Diocese of Mangalore are beneficiaries of this phase of the housing project.

4. Diocesan CODP Housing Project

Dear Parish Priests, details of Phase 2 of the Housing Project will be communicated in the coming months. We appreciate your cooperation and are grateful for your support.

Director, CODP

DIAMOND AND PLATINUM BIRTHDAY

1. Rev. Fr Paul Rego, Parish Priest, St. Dominic Church, Miyar, celebrates his 60th birthday on 06.06.2024.
2. Rev. Fr Leo Veigas, St Zuze Vas Home, celebrates his 75th birthday on 28.06.2024.

On your birthday, we pray for your health, happiness, and continued spiritual strength. May God's blessings always be with you. Happy Birthday!

R.I.P.

- Mrs Alice Sequeira nee D'Cunha (89 years), mother of Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira, Socius, Immaculate Conception Church, Urwa, passed away on May 2, 2024. Her funeral took place on May 4, 2024, at Mount Carmel Church, Shirhady.
 - Mr Everestine Serrao (97 years), brother of Rev. Fr Peter Serrao, Resident Priest, St Paul Church, Delanthabettu, passed away on May 25, 2024. His funeral took place on May 27, 2024, at Our Lady of Remedies Church, Kirem.
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