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August 2023

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME FOR AUGUST 2023

- 2 11.00 a.m. General Body Meeting, CBE, at Bishop's House
- 3 10.30 a.m. Concetta Hospital Trust Meeting, Bishop's House
- 03.15 p.m. Governing Body and General Body Meeting, CODP
- 5-6 Pastoral Visit, Ammembal Parish
- 8 04.30 p.m. Diocesan Finance Council Meeting
- 9-10 Ongoing formation of the Clergy, Pastoral Centre
- 12-13 Pastoral Visit, Angelore Parish
- 14 05.00 p.m. Confirmation, Manjotti Parish
- 16-17 Ongoing formation, Junior Clergy, Pastoral Centre
- 19-20 Pastoral Visit, Bejai Parish
- 22 09.00 a.m. Meeting of Regional Commission for Communication
- 11.00 a.m. Trust Meeting at Sandesha
- 23-26 To Asansol Diocese for Ordination Ceremony
- 27 Pastoral Visit, Shaktinagar Parish

- 29 09.15 a.m. Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, Bishop's House
- 31 09.00 a.m. Registered Society Meeting, St Joseph Seminary, Jeppu

Bishop Meets in the Forenoon:

Diocesan Clergy, 21; Lay Faithful, 28;
Religious Men and Women, 30

BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR AUGUST 2023

Papal Intention for August: Pope Francis has invited the Universal Church to pray for World Youth Day, which will take place from 1 to 6 August in Lisbon. We should insistently pray for young people that they may live and be true witnesses of the Gospel in their lives. The theme of the 37th World Youth Day is taken from the Visitation scene: "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1: 39). The Pope writes in his message for the day: "Within herself, Mary already bore the Lamb that was slain and yet lives. She arises and sets out, for she is certain that God's plan is the best plan for her life. Mary becomes a temple of God, an image of the pilgrim Church, a Church that goes forth for service, a Church that brings the good news to all!" The youth, travelling to Lisbon, must imitate Mary, the Mother of God, to go with haste to carry the Good News to the battered humanity. Let everyone take it upon himself/herself to fill hope in the lives of those they meet. Earlier, the Pope had asked the youth to take the blessing of grandparents and ask them to accompany them on their journey. This celebration will be a useful guide for the celebration of World Youth Day in the local Churches on 20 November, the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Plenary Indulgence: On 2 August, the feast day of the "Portiuncula", a Plenary indulgence is obtained by those who devoutly visit a Parish Church, Minor Basilica and Shrine, recite the Lord's Prayer and the Creed in addition to sacramental confession, Holy Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff. The visit may be made from noon on the previous

day until midnight of the day itself. St Francis of Assisi asked for this grace of pardon from the Lord, and it was granted to him and now applied to the whole Church. An Indulgence is not the forgiveness of sins, but the remission of the temporal punishment due to sin. Pope John Paul II teaches that Indulgences are “the expression of the Church’s full confidence of being heard by the Father when—in view of Christ’s merits and, by his gift, those of Our Lady and the saints—she asks him to mitigate or cancel the painful aspect of punishment by fostering its medicinal aspect through other channels of grace” (John Paul II, General Audience, September 29, 1999). We may apply the grace of indulgences for our own transformation or for the faithful departed.

Independence Day and the Feast of the Assumption of Mary: August 15 is a significant date for the people of India. Two historic events are commemorated and celebrated on this day: India’s independence and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The former is a political event, while the latter is spiritual. The coincidence of the Assumption of Mary and Independence Day provides us Catholics with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate. As we celebrate the 76th Anniversary of India’s Independence (or 77th Independence Day), our hopes are high for a stronger and more prosperous India, where all peoples will continue to enjoy freedom—freedom of expression and religion, equality of opportunity for all, as enshrined in the Indian Constitution’s preamble. Despite our confident optimism, the signs of our times are disturbing and depressing. On the political front, there is a lot of upheaval and turmoil. But, without despair and with great optimism, let us pledge to love our country and work together for its progress and peaceful living. The prayers of the Mass express the glorification of Mary and the birth of our nation. For example, it says that on the day Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven, our country attained freedom and independence with a petition that, under Mother Mary’s protection, all peoples be freed from all evils and receive blessings for all

their efforts and works. Mary's assumption positively impacts our lives because she also invites us to work out our freedom from sin and death.

Drug Menace as a Matter of Concern: These days, the newspapers carry reports about the drug menace in our district. The State Government has also given serious thought to it, and the district administration is assuring us that it is trying its best to protect the younger generation from becoming victims. Many families are devastated due to this vice among young students. We have to join hands with the Government to arrest the growth of drug peddling and consumption. Therefore, to enlighten the families, we have chosen this theme as part of the ongoing formation of the Clergy and for discussion in the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Let us do our level best to involve the youth to protect the younger generation and families.

May Mother Mary, Queen Assumed into Heaven, intercede for us.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRIESTS' AID FUND AND THE RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

There are a few members of the Priests' Aid Fund who have not yet paid the arrears of their annual subscription of Rs 3000 to the P.A.F. and the contribution of Rs 3000 or more to the Retired Priests Fund of previous years. The members are requested to settle the dues by August 20, 2023.

The list of the members who have contributed for 2022-23 will be published in the September 2023 *Inter Nos*.

In addition, the members are also reminded to pay the Annual Subscription to the P.A.F. and Retired Priests' Fund for the financial year 2023-24.

– **Procurator**

ONGOING CLERGY FORMATION

I. PROGRAMME FOR ALL THE CLERGY

Topic : *Pastoral Care towards People Affected by Drug Abuse*

Place : Shanthi Kiran, Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi

Date : 9 and 10 August 2023

Time : 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

9 August 2023	10 August 2023
Vicariates	Vicariates
Mangalore City	Episcopal City
Moodbidri	Surathkal
Bantwal	Kirem
Pezar	Permannur
Bela	Puttur
Vittal	Belthangady

Kindly mark your calendar and be present for this important programme.

II. PROGRAMME FOR JUNIOR CLERGY

Participants: Priests ordained 2013 onwards, up to 2023.

Place : Shanthi Kiran, Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi

Date : 16 and 17 August 2023

Time : 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Resource Persons

1. On 16 August 2023, Rev. Dr George Pinto SVD
Topic: *Journeying into Healing and Self Transformation.*
2. 17th August 2023, Mr Amith Prabhu
Topic: *Fundamentals of Public Relations* (Presentation of Assignments)

All junior clergy must attend this programme. The rest of the priests are welcome to participate.

Fr Santhosh Rodrigues
Director, Pastoral Institute

Bishop Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

MANGALA JYOTHI

I. Programmes for August 2023

- 1-10 : Liturgy, Lectors, Catechists and YOUCAT trainings, Vicariate of Southern Arabia, UAE
- 11-12 : YOUCAT India meeting
- 20 : Adult Catechesis – Liturgy, Lectors and Choir Trainings, Kirem Parish
- 21 : Catechetical Apostolate - Session, Priests of Udupi Diocese
- 24 : Deanery Priests Catechism Co-ordinators meeting, Bajjodi
- 27 : Adult Catechesis – Liturgy, Lectors and Choir Trainings, Bondel Parish
- 28-31 : YOUCAT international committee meeting, Bangalore

II. Commission for Catechetics - Information

1. Deanery-wise Catechists' Follow-up Programme:

Deanery Priest Catechism Coordinators are requested to organise follow-up meetings and seminars for catechism teachers. So far, 4 deaneries have organised the programme (Moodbidri, Bantwal, Permannur, Kasargod - I).

2. Diocesan Level Priest Catechism Coordinators' Meeting:

Date : 24-08-2023, Time: 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Venue: Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi

I request all the Deanery Priest Coordinators to mark this date in your calendar and attend without fail.

3. Question Paper Pattern for Annual Catechism Examination:

Question paper pattern for the annual evaluation and examination (School as well as Sunday Catechism) is uploaded in our website: www.mangalajyothi.com

4. Parish Catechetical and Liturgical Library: As per the observations and suggestions made by the catechists' coordinators during the annual evaluation meeting on 02 and

03 July 2023, the catechists have requested to inform all the parish priests to have parish catechetical and liturgical library so that parents, as well as children/youth, can have easy access to refer the faith-related books. Therefore, I request you to consider this suggestion very positively.

III. Commission for Liturgy - Information

1. **Extraordinary Ministers' Training:** If you need training for Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion at the deanery level, please don't hesitate to contact us.
2. **Lectors' Training:** Lectors' training can be organised at the parish level. The duration of the programme is 3 hours.
3. **Choir Members' Training:** Choir Members' Training can be organised at the deanery level.

IV. Religious Articles and Book Stall Section - Information

1. Mass Candles, Votive Candles, Murdhom Candles, superior quality Hosts & Particles, and Incense are available.
2. First Holy Communion/Confirmation Certificates, Candles, Crown, Veils, Rosaries, and Scapular are available.
3. Mass vestment, Ciborium, Chalice, Stole, Candle stand, Globe, Missal stands and other church articles are available.
4. Insignia is meant for Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion only, and they are available at our stall on prior orders.
5. Infant Mary statue for home and all kinds of statues

V. New Arrivals & other important books:

1. Samudayachi gitam - pendrive
2. English Missal - Chapel edition
3. Konkani Missal - reprint edition
4. Adult Catechism - 3 Volumes
5. Lectionary (English, Kannada & Konkani)
6. Ritual books (English, Kannada & Konkani)
7. Konkani hymnal and music notations - printed edition
8. Bhavartacho Sombram - Reprint (Catechesis on Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)
9. Handbook for Lectors and Choir
10. Monthi Feast Novena book (Konkani)

- Director, Mangala Jyothi

PROGRAMMES OF CODP

- 02.08.2023 : Training on Government schemes and benefits at Moodbidri
- 03.08.2023 : CODP Jubilee Housing Project amount disbursement program, Board of Directors & General Body Meet and ISD Trust Meet in CODP-ISD
- 06.08.2023 : Aati-donji Koota celebration in CODP-ISD
- 12.08.2023 : Training on Gender Sensitization at Sangama & Madhura Masanghas and Panchayati Raj at Talapady
- 19.08.2023 : Medical Camp at Kumbla and Training on Gender Sensitization at Prathvi Mahasangha
- 22.08.2023 : Training on Panchayati Raj at Kannatipara
- 25.08.2023: Bandhavya Governing Board and General Body Meet in CODP-ISD, Training on Self-employment & Onam celebration at Mavinakatte and on Global warming at Talapady & Kotekar
- 26.08.2023 : Training on Natural Resource Management at Farla
- 27.08.2023 : Training on Govt schemes & benefits at Mudipu and Medical Camp at Balepuni
- 28.08.2023 : KROSS General Body meet at Bengaluru, Training on Gender Sensitization at Samrudhi & Vanitha Masanghas and on Environment at Moodbidri
- 29.08.2023 : Onam Celebration at Kumbdaje.

Other activities planned for August 2023

- 1) CODP Jubilee Housing project amount disbursement
- 2) Interviews and Education loan disbursement to Educare students

**I. Details of Lenten Collection of 2023 received between
23 June & 23 July 2023**

Parish/ Individuals	Contribution received		Convents/ Institutions	Contribution received	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
Belthangady	65,970	58,280	Capitano Convent, Bela		10,000
Belvai	51,100	57,200	Dharmajyothi Social Centre, Vamanjoor	10,000	5,000
Kollangana	17,880	15,000	Helpers of Mount Rosary, Alangar	4,000	2,500
Loreto	84,855	91,050	Bethany Convent, Kollangana	1,000	1,000
Miyapadavu	41,200	43,140			
Narampady	55,500	58,800			
Panir	1,04,275	86,080			
Vamanjoor	1,03,830	1,40,000			

– Director, CODP

**COMMISSION FOR
BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES**

1. ಅಗೋಸ್ಟ್ 06, 2023 ಆಯ್ತಾರಾ 09.00 ಥಾವ್ನ್ ದನ್ಬಾರಾಂ 01.30 ವೊರಾ ಪರ್ಯಾಂತ್ ಲ್ಹಾಕ್ರಿ.ಸ. ಆಯೋಗಾಚ್ಯಾ ಫಿರ್ಗಜ್ ಸಂಚಾಲಕಾಂಚೆ ಆನಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಂಚೆಂ ಸಹಮಿಲನ್ (ಎಪಿಸ್ಕೊಪಲ್ ಸಿಟಿ, ಸಿಟಿ, ಸುರತ್ಕಲ್, ಪೆಜಾರ್, ಪೆರ್ಮನ್ಬೂರ್, ಕಿರಂ ಆನಿ ಬೆಳಾ ವಾರಾಡೆ) ಸಾಂತ್ ಆಂತೊನ್ ಆಸ್ತೊ ಜೆಪ್ಪು, ಸಭಾ ಸಾಲಾಂತ್.

2. Programmes in August

- 6: Parish Coordinators & Secretaries Meet, St Antony's, Jeppu
13: BECs Training, Niddodi Parish
14-18: Indian Spirituality Classes, Maryhill
23-24: BECs Southern States Diocesan Directors meet, Shanti Kiran, Bajjodi
27: BECs training Vijayadka Parish
28: BECs training Kumbala Parish

3. Deanery BEC Office Bearers

	Deanery	Director and Lay Coordinator
01	Episcopal Vicariate	Rev Fr Benjamine Pinto, Urwa Mrs Ida Pinto, Urwa
02	City Vicariate	Rev Fr Joseph Martis, Derebail Ms Pressy Monteiro, Kelarai
03	Pezar Vicariate	Rev Fr Ronald Pinto, Permude Mrs Evelyn Sequeira, Gurpur
04	St Teresa of Kolkata Vicariate	Rev Fr Santhosh Lobo, Katipalla Mrs Veena Rodrigues, Katipalla
05	Bantwal Vicariate	Rev Fr Francis Crasta, Loretto Mrs Asha Fernandes, Loretto
06	St John Paul II Vicariate	Rev Fr Simon D'Souza, Peruvai Mrs Rita Fernandes, Mogarnad
07	Mangalore South Vicariate	Rev. Fr Assisi Rebello, Mudipu Mr Felix D'Souza, Panir
08	Mangalore North Vicariate	Rev. Fr Alban Rodrigues, Neerude Mrs Matilda Pramila D'Souza, Niddodi
09	Mangalore East Vicariate	Rev Fr William D'Souza, Madanthyar Mr. Roshan D'Souza, Ujire
10	Central Vicariate	Rev Fr Ronald D'Souza, Gantalkatte Mrs Theresa Cardoza, Moodbidri Town
11	Eastern Vicariate	Rev Fr Abel Lobo, Uppinangady Mr. John Monteiro, Nellyady
12	Southern Vicariate	Rev Fr Louis Cutinha, Kasargod Mr Vincent Rodrigues, Lawrence Nagar-Permude

The Diocesan Service Team consists of the Bishop, Vicar General, Diocesan BECs Director, and Secretary. This team oversees and facilitates the smooth development of BECs in the Diocese.

We wish all the best in your efforts to build and nurture the BECs in your Deanery.

Mrs Asha Monteiro, Shaktinagar is the newly elected Diocesan BECs Secretary.

- **Fr Joachim Fernandes**
Director, BECs

CBCI OFFICE FOR DOCTRINE

24th CBCI Bishops - Theologians Colloquium 2023

July 6-7, 2023, NBCLC Bengaluru

**A Theological, Pastoral, Liturgical and Canonical Rereading of
TRADITIONIS CUSTODES and *DESIDERIO DESIDERAVI***

Statement

1. We, a group of 49 theologians comprising of bishops, priests, consecrated men and women, a lay person, gathered on 6 and 7 July 2023, at NBCLC, Bengaluru, Karnataka, for a colloquium to engage with “A Theological, Pastoral, Liturgical, and Canonical Rereading of *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi*.”
2. The colloquium was inaugurated by Most Rev. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore, who drew our attention to the five key words of *Desiderio Desideravi*, ‘desire, mystery, symbolism, art, and celebration,’ and emphasised that we rediscover and live out these elements in the liturgy. Most Rev. Raphy Manjaly, Archbishop of Agra and Chairman of the CBCI Office for Doctrine, in his Presidential Address, stating that worship – breaking of the bread – was the primary identity of the Early Christian Church, set the Documents of our study in their historical, theological, and ecclesial backgrounds. He stressed that liturgy must aim at forming ecclesial communion. The felicitation by Most Rev. Peter Paul Saldanha, Bishop of Mangalore and Member Bishop of the CBCI Office for Doctrine, stirred our hearts to appreciate Eucharistic consciousness, and silence in the

liturgy. The inaugural session, thus, clarified the goal of the colloquium, and directed the participants towards it.

3. The papers presented by Most Rev. Thomas Dabre, Rev. Dr. Yesu Karunanidhi, Rev. Dr. Francis Gonsalves SJ, Rev. Dr. Roy Joseph Kaduppil, Rev. Dr. Bilju Vazhappilly, Most Rev. Thomas Padiyath, Rev. Dr. Paulachan Kochappilly CMI, Rev. Dr. John Padipurackal, Rev. Dr. Pauly Maniyattu, (i) articulated the background, the content, the significance, and the reception of *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi*, (ii) analysed the identification, integration, and celebration of symbol in human life and worship in the light of the documents, (iii) brought out the canonical and pastoral implications, and philosophical-theological hermeneutics of the Documents, (iv) underscored the importance of liturgy in making us become who we are and what we celebrate, (v) studied the reception of the liturgical theology of the Second Vatican Council in the Syro-Malankara Church; and (vi) evaluated *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi* in the light of the Syro-Malabar liturgical tradition.
4. The sessions were moderated by Rev. Dr. Jacob Marangatt CMI, Rev. Dr. Lourdu Anandam, Rev. Dr. Alangaram Arockiam SJ, Rev. Dr. Jeevan Prasad MSFS, and Rev. Dr. Santhosh S. Cheruvallil.
5. The Church in India resonates with *Traditionis Custodes* (2021) and *Desiderio Desideravi* (2022) insofar as it has deep love for the Universal Church, her unity, and her mission in the world. The concerns that the Documents have spelt out such as spiritual worldliness, subjectivism, inability to read the symbols, lack of sense of sacred and wonder, treating the liturgical mysteries as magical events, and the temptation to revert to the pre-Conciliar liturgical traditions are at times our experiences as well. Rediscovering the relationship between worship and discipleship, learning to appreciate the symbolic value of body and silence, understanding the relationship between salvation history and Paschal mystery, the need for liturgical formation, experiencing the movement

- from 'I' to 'we,' from subjective participation to objective communitarian experience in humility, wonder, and surrender, are felt as the imperatives for the Church in India today.
6. The tensions that emerge during the reading of *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi* are: (a) reconciling the Documents' aim for unity in the Church through uniformity in liturgy and the importance of diversity in liturgy which is emphasised by many during the discussions at the First Phase of the Synod for a Synodal Church 2021-2024; (b) integrating the sacramentality of the Indian soil, its appreciation for values, signs, symbols, and gestures to our liturgical celebrations; (c) overemphasis on the liturgical activities (*ad intra*) versus negligence of evangelisation (*ad extra*); (d) the growing gap between the stress on following the rubrics of the liturgy and lack of knowledge about the significance of symbols, prayers, and gestures; (e) all theological disciplines, instead of leading to liturgy, let it aloof giving a picture that liturgy is a supernatural endeavour; and (f) liturgies in the Church, instead of bringing people together in relationships, at times bring conflict and discrimination.
 7. Based on our reading of *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi* from theological, pastoral, liturgical, and canonical perspectives we propose the following as our priorities: (a) Asserting liturgical celebration as an expression of and means for unity in the Church; (b) Revisiting the Second Vatican Council to comprehensively understand our Christian identity and mission; (c) Rediscovering the sense of sacred, wonder, contemplation, silence, and mystery in the liturgical celebrations; (d) By understanding the formation of the liturgy we move to formation by the liturgy; (e) Liturgical celebration as a reminder of our mandate for evangelisation and social justice; and (f) Liturgy that makes Christians aware of their interrelatedness to other human persons, and the entire cosmos.
 8. The 24th CBCI Bishops - Theologians Colloquium proposes to the Church in India the following calls to action:

- 8.1 The bishops shall ensure that the instructions given in *Traditionis Custodes* and *Desiderio Desideravi* are communicated to the priests, and all the faithful, and exhort them not to partake in any liturgical celebration that disrupts ecclesial communion. With diligence and discernment, they guide the faithful towards the liturgical unity that the Universal Church, as Mother and Teacher, advocates.
- 8.2 The clergy, consecrated men and women, seminarians and candidates in formation, and lay faithful are led through animation and formation to the teachings of the Second Vatican Council: On Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*), on the sacred liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*), on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*), on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et Spes*), and on the Eastern Churches (*Orientalium Ecclesiarum*).
- 8.3 At every level liturgical catechesis on the celebration of the Lord's Day and the liturgical be inculcated that both the celebrants and the participants understand their roles, and responsibilities in the celebrations and fulfil them accordingly.
- 8.4 That we, as Churches together united in witness, may appreciate the richness of our liturgical traditions, which inspire in us sense of sacred, mystery, and wonder, and we may appreciate the sacramentality of our own soil.
- 8.5 That through meaningful celebrations of the Eucharist and other sacraments, which is accompanied by sound proclamation of the word of God contribute to community building.
- 8.6 That our celebrations of the Eucharist and other sacraments, make us missionary disciples, striving to work for justice, human development, and care for our common home.
9. The participants - bishops, theologians and lay faithful – echo the words of Pope Francis, with which he concludes *Desiderio Desideravi*: “Let us abandon our polemics to listen together to what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Let us safeguard our communion. Let us continue to be astonished at the beauty of the Liturgy. The Paschal Mystery has been

given to us. Let us allow ourselves to be embraced by the desire that the Lord continues to have to eat His Passover with us. All this under the gaze of Mary, Mother of the Church.”

Archbishop Raphy Manjaly (Chairman)

Archbishop of Agra

Archbishop Joseph Pamplany (Member)

Archbishop of Thalassery

Bishop Peter Paul Saldanha (Member)

Bishop of Mangalore

Rev. Dr Thomas Vadakkal (Secretary)

Professor, Paurastya Vidyapitham, Vadavathoor

LITURGY NOTES: WHEN SHOULD A READER MOVE TO THE AMBO TO PROCLAIM THE READING?

The answer is simple: Lectors or Readers should not move towards the sanctuary when the Collect is prayed. The Collect concludes when the assembly responds with “Amen.” After everyone has said “Amen,” the assembly will sit down. Only after the “Amen” of the assembly to the Collect can the reader leave his or her seat and proceed to the sanctuary or the ambo.

Because some parishes follow a practice that contradicts the aforementioned principle, it is natural to wonder why the lectors should not move from their seats to the sanctuary or ambo before people say “Amen” to the Collect. The reasons are numerous, with the following being the most important:

1) The liturgical norm clearly gives the direction: “After the Collect, **all sit**. ... **Then** the reader goes to the ambo and, from the Lectionary already placed there before Mass, proclaims the First Reading, to which all listen” (*GIRM* 128). There is no ambiguity in the instruction issued by the Holy See.

2) The Collect is a time for prayer, reflection, and we all need to be still. As a result, everyone present should take part in the Priest’s prayer in silence and with attention. The lector’s

movement or walking during the Collect indicates that he is not focused on the prayer but on himself and his upcoming reading activity.

3) When the lector moves during the prayer, both the celebrant and the audience become distracted. Their conscious participation is hampered because their attention is diverted from the Collect to the lector.

4) In an assembly, any movement of a person during a presidential speech is considered disrespectful. The Collect is a presidential prayer said during Mass. In accordance with etiquette and decent behaviour, moving or strolling around while the celebrant is praying or preaching is impolite.

5) After everyone has responded with “Amen” to the Collect prayed by the Priest, the Liturgy of the Word can begin. The line between the various parts of the Mass is blurred when the lector walks towards the sanctuary before the “Amen,” or before the Introductory Rite of the Mass is completed. While the Introductory Rite is still in progress, the lector cannot attempt to begin the next sequence of the Mass. By not upholding the purpose and dignity of each component of the Mass and allowing them to overlap, the art of celebration and active participation in the Mass are devalued. As a result, in order to avoid disruptions in the Introductory Rite, lectors should be aware of when the introductory part of the Mass concludes and when the Liturgy of the Word begins. The distinct character of each part of the Mass or Liturgy is respected when the movement or gestures take place after one part has concluded and never before.

6) The lector leaving the place to make his way to the sanctuary ahead of time gives the impression that he or she is rushing. Maintaining a proper pace is essential when performing ministry; rushing in and out frequently ruins an otherwise excellent liturgy. The perennial enemy of the *ars celebrandi* is haste and the desire to rush through the rite, as if there is something more important to do than celebrate the Eucharist! Hurried space, the tyranny of time or the clock, the consumer’s approach to quick service, the “entertain me” attitude, and other such things have

no place in liturgical celebrations. The liturgy needs time to unfold its beauty just as we need time to enter into prayer.

7) Silence is an important component of the Liturgy that often gets neglected. The time between the “Amen” of the Collect and the First Reading offers an opportunity for silence to prepare oneself to listen to the Word of God. “It may be appropriate to observe such periods of silence, for example, *before the Liturgy of the Word itself begins*, after the First and Second Reading, ...” (GIRM 56). Moreover, some Episcopal Conferences have given the direction that “care should be taken that the prayerful silence is established before the reader moves from or to the ambo, and that their movement does not break the silence” (Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England & Wales, *Celebrating the Mass*, 160). The movement of the lector during the presidential prayer and before the conclusion of the Introductory Rite not only disrupts the attention of the praying community and blurs the distinction between different parts of the Mass, but it also interferes with the sacred silence that serves as a prelude to the Liturgy of the Word.

As regards the movement from one’s seat and on reaching the ambo: When the lectors proceed to the ambo in the sanctuary, they do not carry the lectionary with them to the ambo to proclaim the reading, nor do they take it with them when they return to their places after the proclamation. In the liturgical assembly, “the lector receives from the Church the book of canonical text to read. It is not the lector’s but the Church’s. By placing it on the ambo, the Church puts it in the lector’s hands. On finishing the reading, the lector does not carry the book away but leaves it with the assembly because it is in the assembly’s care, just as the Eucharist is.”

The Lectionary has already been placed at the ambo, open to the first reading. The lector should not take the leaflet, missalette, participation aid, bible diary or book with him/her. The Word of God is not to be proclaimed from such transitory or throw-away materials. Instead, use the one – the Lectionary - that is placed on the ambo. There is one Word – one book for the proclamation, and all should read from that source.

Once at the ambo, the first reader should wait until everyone is seated and settled before beginning. People will need a few minutes to find their places, move belongings, and give attention to children. The lector should ensure that people are ready to listen. It takes some time for everyone to settle in and get seated before they are ready to fully listen to what will be said. If some people begin to wonder why the reading has not started, that simply means they will be more attentive when the proclamation begins! A good reader will let this happen and give people a chance to focus their attention on the reading.

- Rev. Victor G. D'Souza
Chancellor

CONGRATULATIONS TO MSGR ELIAS FRANK, BISHOP-ELECT OF ASANSOL

On July 3, 2023, Pope Francis appointed Rev. Elias Frank, a native of Bantwal and clergy of Asansol; since 2007, Professor of Canon Law at the Pontifical Urban University in Rome, Bishop of Asansol.

Rev. Elias Frank was born on August 15, 1962, in Bantwal, Infant Jesus Parish, in the Diocese of Mangalore. He was ordained a priest on April 23, 1993, at Our Lady of Happy Voyage Church in Howrah. He has served as a Parish Priest, Parochial Administrator, and Parish Priest since his ordination as a priest. Following his studies in canon law, he served as a judge at the Inter-Diocesan Tribunal of Kolkata. Along with teaching, he has published two books and numerous articles in various scientific journals; served as editor of the journal *Ius Missionale*; external judge of the First Instance Tribunal of the Vicariate of Rome; Consultor of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments; and Commissioner for *in favorem fidei* marriage cases at the Dicastery for the Doctrine of Faith.

Rev. Elias Frank will be ordained and installed as Bishop of Asansol on August 24, 2023. We extend our warmest congratulations and prayers.

SEVENTY YEARS IN PRIESTHOOD - CONGRATULATIONS!

**Rev. Aloysius DSouza (St Zuze Vas Home)
completes 70 years of Priesthood on 24.08.2023**

Seven decades have passed since your name was called in the Papal Seminary Chapel, Kandy, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) at the hour of your priestly ordination, and you responded: *Adsum* — I am ready! This is the word with which Abraham placed himself at the service of God's call, as Samuel, the prophets of the Old Covenant, and finally, the witnesses to Christ did after him down through the centuries. *Adsum* — I am ready, Lord, do with me what you will. Send me. I want to be your instrument.

You said your *Adsum* with the passion and determination of your hearts after all that you had experienced: Here I am, Lord — take me into your service for the coming of your kingdom. You, dear Fr Aloysius, held high the flame of this Yes in the dark and bright hours of these seventy years, in storms as well as in good times, and we thank you for that at this time.

For seventy long years, you strove to communicate to people more of Christ than what “men” say; you strove to communicate Christ himself. You pointed him out so that people could see the face of God in his face (Jn 14:9). You did not let yourselves be dissuaded when the waters of unbelief rose. You put up with it when you were dismissed as old-fashioned and not with the times. You knew who really holds time in his hands. You were able to say: I know whom I have believed.

As priest, you have accompanied people in all the seasons of life, in their hours of joy and in their hours of grief and suffering. You have helped people to live and to die. So, you have many friends, on this side of the threshold of death and beyond it. When someday you knock at the door of heaven, you do not need to be afraid. There are so many people there who are waiting for you, who thank you: people to whom you showed the way. Yes, you will not be alone when you arrive. At this moment, we would like to thank you in the name of the Church,

in the name of so many people, for the service of faith and life that you have given to countless people during these seven decades. *[The text is from the homily Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger preached on July 2, 2000 in Munich, on the occasion of the Golden Priestly Jubilee of five priests; it is used here, with only the place of ordination and number of years in the priesthood changed].*

To you, dear Fr Aloysius, go our affection, our gratitude, and our closeness. May the Lord continue to bless you with good health and grace upon grace. Congratulations. *Ad multos gloriosque annos* (to many glorious years).

R.I.P.

- Mr Cyprian Lobo (77 years), father of Rev. Fr Anil Avild Lobo, Parochial Administrator, Nainad, expired on 15.07.2023. His funeral took place on 16.07.2023 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Shirthady.
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