

# INTER NOS

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February 2025

## BISHOP'S PROGRAMME FOR FEBRUARY 2025

1-4	CCBI Meeting, Bhubaneshwar
5-16	ICEL Meeting, Washington D.C.
17-19	KRCBC Meeting, Bangalore
20-21	Administrative Board Meeting, St Peter's Seminary, Bangalore
23	Pastoral Visit, Fermai
25-26	NBCLC Governing Board Meeting, Goa
27	05.00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting, FMCI
28	05.00 p.m. Dual Jubilee, Bethany, Bendur

## BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY 2025

**Papal Intention for February:** Pope Francis invites the whole Church to pray for the vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Many young men and women may feel attracted to the consecrated life, but they need the right ambience to discern their vocation. The Christian community must help them to discern God's will for them and nurture their vocation through prayer and personal accompaniment. Let us not forget to pray unceasingly for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, that the Lord of the harvest may send labourers into His harvest.

**Jubilee of the Religious:** The feast of the Presentation of the Lord, 2 February 2025, is a day of the Consecrated Life. On this

day, we celebrate the Jubilee of the Religious. The Religious Priests, Brothers and Sisters are a treasure of our diocese. Through their dedicated life of service and spirituality, they enrich the Christian life. Let us pray in a special way for the religious men and women, organise programmes to honour them, and recognise their service in the Parish and Institutions.

**Jubilee of Missionary Children:** On 9 February 2025, we celebrate the Jubilee of Missionary Children. Little children are to be formed as missionaries. When little children introduce Jesus to their peers, they become effective instruments of the Lord. There are places in the world and in our country where children became Christ-bearers and brought many to Christ. The simplicity of the children and their innocence attract people to Christ. May the children in our parishes be filled with a deeper knowledge of Jesus and communicate him to others. Let us seriously train the little ones to bear testimony to Christ.

**Jubilee of the Sick:** On 11 February 2025, we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. On this day, the Church celebrates the World Day of the Sick. This is a special occasion to celebrate the Jubilee of the Sick in our Parishes. Bringing the sick together at the Parish level or creatively celebrating their presence in our homes will give deeper meaning to their suffering. Suffering, united with the Cross of Christ, teaches us to contemplate the redemption brought through the Crucified Jesus. May we bring new hope to those who suffer. May Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for the sick and suffering.

**Day of Ordination:** This year, we will hold the ceremony of Priestly Ordination on 30 April at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Moodbidri-Alangar. May we keep the Deacons in our prayers and ensure that they prepare themselves well for the great mission that will be entrusted to them.

**Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI)** will meet from 28 January to 4 February at XIM University in the Archdiocese of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar. The theme of the discussion is 'Discerning Synodal Pathways for Mission.' Please

pray that the Bishops of the Church truly listen to the Spirit of the Lord, discerning His will and carrying forward the mission mandate effectively to make Jesus Christ known, loved, and proclaimed

May Mary, the Immaculate Conception, intercede for us.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha  
**Bishop of Mangalore**

## **PASTORAL CONSULTATION - 2025**

The **Pastoral Consultation 2025** will be held on Wednesday, 9th and Thursday, 10th April 2025. The focus of this Consultation will be on various pastoral issues. Below are the areas where we will discuss, share our experiences, and propose relevant issues for implementation. I kindly request the Vicars Forane to discuss the following areas with the priests in your Vicariate. These will serve as the themes for the pastoral exchange of ideas, experiences, and discussions at the Consultation. Please send the issues and points discussed or suggested on the themes to me by **5th March 2025**. Kindly focus on the following areas when discussing with the priests in your Vicariate:

### **1. Family Apostolate:**

- How does this ministry function in our parishes and deaneries (e.g., family visits, bereavement ministry, marriage preparation, ministry to the elderly and the sick)?
- What improvements or enhancements can we implement?

### **2. Youth Apostolate:**

- How does this ministry operate in our parishes and deaneries?
- What can we do to improve or strengthen it?

### **3. Catechetical Formation:**

- **Children's Catechism:** How does it function in our parishes?

- Are there opportunities to expand or enhance the children's apostolate in our parishes?
- **Adult Catechesis:** Are we taking sufficient steps for adult catechesis?
- 4. Small Christian Communities (SCC) Apostolate:**
  - Does this ministry function effectively in our parishes?
  - What steps can we take to make it more impactful?
- 5. Vocations to Priestly and Religious Life:**
  - What measures can we take to promote priestly and religious vocations in our parishes, deaneries, and diocese?
- 6. Matters Related to Property and Finance:**
  - Are there any specific property or financial issues affecting pastoral ministry?
- 7. Any Other Pertinent Pastoral Issues:**
  - Please highlight any other important matter related to pastoral ministry which needs discussion.

Please share your observations, issues, or questions with me by post, WhatsApp, or email at [josemartisfr@gmail.com](mailto:josemartisfr@gmail.com) by **5th March 2025**. You may also send them to the Vicar General's Office.

- Fr Joseph Martis  
Secretary, Council of Priests

## **PASTORAL MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE FOR PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE OF MANGALORE**

For the past four years, there has been an ongoing discussion about the need for data management software for the parishes of the diocese, along with meetings on designing and implementing the project. However, progress has been very slow. Despite the Director of the CCC being assigned the task and making his best efforts to address the issue, it remained a distant goal due to a lack of clarity on several key matters. Consequently, at the College of Consultors' meeting on 21 October 2024, a new

Committee was formed, with Rev. Fr. Walter D’Souza (Parish Priest, Bendur) as Convenor, and Fr. Kenneth Crasta, Fr. Anil Ivan Fernandes, Fr. Rohan Lobo, and Fr. Denzil Lobo as members, to study the practical needs and offer concrete solutions and recommendations. The Committee, having studied the matter in the context of current needs and flexibility to adapt to future updates, recommended the system developed by Rev. Fr. Evan Gomes, SVD.

Having approved the recommendation of the Committee at the College of Consultors' meeting on 3 January 2025 and considering this Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) data management software developed by Fr. Evan as the best option that meets all requirements and offers possibilities for updates, and taking into account the financial viability of the parishes to install and maintain this software, the project is approved in principle for the parishes in the Diocese of Mangalore. However, once the format for certificates and other documentation is approved (as it should be uniform and common at the diocesan level), further information regarding the installation and maintenance costs, availability for installation in the diocese, and other details will be shared with you.

At this juncture, I would like to present to you the following information provided by Fr. Evan, introducing his innovative Church Management ERP solution, specifically designed to support parish priests like you in managing administrative tasks, maintaining accurate records, and enhancing community engagement, all while allowing you to devote more time to ministry and pastoral care. This comprehensive ERP system offers a suite of features to streamline various aspects of parish operations:

### **Key Features of Our Church Management ERP**

- **Family Records:** A centralised database for comprehensive family and member profiles, ensuring easy tracking of contact information, family relationships, and participation histories.
- **Sacramental Records:** Maintains detailed sacramental histories—baptisms, confirmations, marriages, first communions, funerals-burials, and more—enabling quick access to religious milestones and anniversaries.

- **Donation Management:** Streamlines tithes, offerings, and contributions with secure online portals, automated receipt generation, and easy tracking of donation histories and pledges.
- **Family Contribution Tracking:** Monitors and analyses financial contributions by family, providing transparency, personalised reports, and insights into giving patterns over time.
- **Council Records:** Organises member information in a secure repository, facilitating effective governance and record-keeping.
- **Inventory Records:** Keeps an up-to-date catalogue of church assets, equipment, and supplies. Manage asset allocation, maintenance schedules, and procurement needs efficiently.
- **Tally Integration:** Seamlessly integrates with Tally accounting software for accurate financial reconciliation, real-time data transfer, and simplified bookkeeping processes.
- **Additional Features:** Provides event scheduling, volunteer coordination, automated communications, reporting dashboards, mobile access, and customisable modules to suit your church's unique needs.

According to him, this feature-rich ERP solution is designed to simplify administration, enhance community engagement, and foster transparency, allowing your church to focus on its mission and ministry. Since Parish Priests must primarily focus on serving the spiritual and pastoral needs of their parish community, this Church Management ERP is designed to handle the administrative demands, freeing them to concentrate on guiding and nurturing their parish community.

Parishes that have been using Flexi can transfer their data to the Church Management ERP solution, while those who have not yet installed parish management software can directly adopt this new system, which I have approved for use in all parishes. A training session covering installation, data entry, and other related concerns will be organised in due course to benefit the priests and those working or assisting in parish offices.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha  
**Bishop of Mangalore**

## **MISSION STATISTICS – 2024 (REMINDER)**

The Annual Mission Statistics Sheets/Forms for the year 2024 were sent to all Parish Priests and Superiors of Religious Houses (both Men and Women) in the first week of January 2025. We thank those priests and religious who have diligently submitted the completed forms as requested. For those who have not yet done so, please ensure that the completed forms reach the Chancery **no later than February 10, 2025**. We kindly request your cooperation and assistance in helping us tabulate the diocesan data and submit it to the Nunciature and the Holy See before the deadline set by them.

- **Chancery Office**

## **MANGALORE DIOCESAN MEGA BIBLE CONVENTION**

**Dates** : 2025 March 20,21,22,23  
**Venue** : Cordel Church Grounds  
**Time** : 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

As the Mangalore Diocesan Charismatic Movement enters its 50th year, we express our heartfelt gratitude for the grace and blessings experienced throughout this journey. Over the years, the team has organised a variety of training programmes, renewal activities, prayer sessions, night vigils, retreats, and conventions across the diocese, with the active cooperation of Parish Priests, Religious Houses, Associations, and Parish Prayer Groups. These Spirit-filled initiatives have touched and transformed countless lives, transcending barriers of religion. The success and growth we celebrate today are due to the unwavering support and encouragement of Most Rev. Dr. Peter Paul Saldanha.

In preparation for the Jubilee Year of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ in 2025, we are excited to announce the **Mega Bible Convention** in collaboration with the Commission for the Bible. This event will be held at the Holy Cross Church

Grounds, Mangalore, from **March 20th to 23rd, 2025**. The preacher for this event is Rev. Fr. Dominic Valanmanal, Director of the Marian Retreat Centre, Anakkara Post, Idukki, Kerala, and a member of the Diocese of Kanjirapally. This convention promises to be a life-changing experience for many. We humbly seek the active participation, prayers, and support of your parish, congregation, and convents. We also request that you include announcements about the event during your regular Sunday Masses.

Moreover, we are blessed with the opportunity to draw upon the wisdom and experience of the renowned preacher and exorcist, Rev. Fr. Dominic Valanmanal, who will lead half-day training sessions in the mornings for leaders from Mangalore and other dioceses in Karnataka.

Let us unite in prayer and action as we prepare for this significant milestone. May this initiative inspire and renew our faith as we journey together toward the Jubilee Year of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Fr Clifford Fernandes**, Spiritual Director & Convenor  
Mangalore Diocesan Charismatic Movement

## **ECCLESIASTICAL TRIBUNAL OF THE DIOCESE OF MANGALORE**

### **Statistical Summary of Cases for the Year 2024**

<b>A. First Instance Cases</b>	
1. Cases awaiting completion as on 01-01-2024	52
2. Petitions registered during 2024	77
Total number of petitions as on 31-12-2024	129
<b>Cases completed during 2024</b>	
1 Fr Naveen Pinto (1 Negative+2 abandoned) (50+1+2)	53
2. Fr Walter D'Mello (1 case withdrawn)	02
3. Fr Denzil Lobo (1 Negative + 1 abandoned) (35+1+1)	37



Total cases completed	92
Total number of petitions yet to be disposed	07
Cases awaiting completion as on 31-12-2024	35
Cases awaiting completion with: Fr Walter D'Mello – 03	
Fr Naveen Pinto – 23      Fr Denzil Lobo - 04	
<b>Defenders of the Bond</b>	
1. First Instance: Fr Daniel Veigas OP: 88   Fr Henry Sequeira: 00	
B. Second Instance Cases	
1. Cases pending as on 01-01-2024	00
2. Cases received during 2024	00
3. Cases completed during the year 2024	00
Total number of cases at hand as on 31-12-2024	00

- **Fr Naveen Pinto, Judicial Vicar**

## **INDIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT (ICYM)**

### *Night Vigil at Mudipu Shrine*

The Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM), Central Council Diocese of Mangalore, is organising *Emmas - 2025* in collaboration with ICYM St. Joseph Vaz Deanery and the St. Joseph Vaz Silver Jubilee Committee, Mudipu.

**Date** : February 22, 2025, 6:30 p.m. to  
February 23, 2025, 6:30 a.m.

**Venue** : St. Joseph Vaz Shrine, Mudipu

This programme is specially designed for the youth of the Mangalore Diocese to come together in faith, fellowship, and spiritual growth. I kindly request the Parish Priests and Directors of ICYM to encourage your youth to participate in this event, helping them to draw immense spiritual benefits from this Jubilee Year spiritual event held at the Shrine.

- **Fr Ashwin Cardoza, Director, ICYM**

## COMMISSION FOR BIBLE

1. **Diocesan Level Online Bible Quiz** (google form mode) will be held **on 05 March 2025 (Ash Wednesday)** in continuation of the Word of God Sunday Celebration. The Quiz includes questions only from the Book of **Genesis and the Gospel of Matthew**. Request you to encourage people to prepare and participate in the same.
2. **Vatek Divo** (Lamp to my Steps—Ps 119:105) — Ward Level-Bible Quiz at Allipade Church on 02.02.2025.
3. **Bible Classes at St Joseph's Institute of Theology, Jeppu, Mangalore, in Konkani and English.**  
**Theme:** ಪಾಪ್ಲಾಚ್ಯಾ ಪಾಪ್ಲಾಂನಿ: ಸಾಂ ಪಾಪ್ಲಾಚ್ಯಾ ಪತ್ರಾಂಕ್ ಏಕ್ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನ್ (In the Footsteps of Paul – An Introduction to the Letters of Paul).  
**Dates:** Konkani: Monday to Friday, Feb 03-07 & 10-14, 2025 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.  
 English: Monday to Friday, Feb 17-21 & 24-28, 2025 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
4. **Vicariate-Level Bible Classes at St Jude's Vicariate, Kirem**  
**Topic:** Bible classes on the Gospel of Matthew, "*God with Us*", will be held for the priests, religious, and laity in Konkani.  
**Date:** 2025, March 08, 15, 22, 29 & April 05  
 On Five Saturdays from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.  
**Venue:** Church Hall, Kinnigoly.
5. **Vicariate-Level Bible Classes at St Zuze Vaz Vicariate, Permannur**  
**Topic:** Bible classes on the Gospel of Luke, "*To Proclaim the Good News*," will be held for the priests, religious, and laity in Konkani.  
**Date:** 2025, March 02 (Permannur), 16 (Ranipura), 23 (Panir), 30 (Nithyadarnagar) & April 06 (Fajir).  
 On Five Sundays from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.  
**Venue:** Selected Church Premises of the Vicariate.

**Fr Vincent Sequeira, Secretary**

## MANGALA JYOTHI

### I. Programmes for February

- 1-5 : CCBI Plenary Assembly - Bhubaneshwar
- 6-7 : KRCBC Regional Faith Formation Commission Meeting, Bangalore
- 9 : Liturgical Catechesis - Class, UFS Sisters
- 10-15 : ICA Meeting - Guwahati
- 20-22 : International YOUCAT team meeting, Bangalore
- 23-26 : NE Region meeting (CCBI), Guwahati
- 27-28 : Western Region meeting (CCBI), Gandhinagar

### II. Information:

#### A. Commission for Catechetics: Catechism Exams/Day

**1. Sunday Catechism Classes:** You are required to complete all catechism classes by 9 February 2025. Examinations will be conducted on 16 February. The syllabus for the examination covers the entire year. The syllabus for the examination covers the entire year. Please note that this is a faith-related exam, not an exam on secular subjects.

You may organise the Catechism Day either on 23 February or on a date that is convenient for you. Kindly ensure that all catechism students' data is submitted online by 10 March 2025 via our website: [www.mangalajyothi.com/parishlogin/allstudentsdata](http://www.mangalajyothi.com/parishlogin/allstudentsdata) (please ignore this message if you have already completed the process).

#### 2. Diocesan Level Catechism Day:

The Diocesan-level Catechism Day will be celebrated on 2 March 2025. On this day, we will honour the top scorers of the X Std. students (School-level catechism annual exams). You are cordially invited to the programme. The celebrations will be held at the Immaculate Conception Church premises in Urwa from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A formal invitation will be sent to you soon.

### III. Books and other Items available at our Stall:

\*ಕಥೋಲಿಕ್ ಪಂಚಾಂಗ್ 2025; 2025 ಜುಬ್ಲಿವ್ ವರ್ಷಾಚೊ ಸಂಭ್ರಮ್;  
 \*ಖುರ್ಸಾ ವಾಟೆಚಿಂ ನವಿಂ ಪುಸ್ತಕಾಂ: (a) ಭರ್ವಶಾಚ್ಯೆ ವಾಟೆರ್ ಖುರ್ಸಾ ವಾಟ್  
 (b) ಭರ್ವಶಾಚ್ಯಾ ಯಾತ್ರಿಕಾಂಕ್ ಖುರ್ಸಾವಾಟ್ \* ಖುರ್ಸಾ ವಾಟೆಚ್ಯಾ 14  
 ಸ್ತಂಭಾಂಚಿಂ ಪಿಂಶುರಾಂ; \* Guidance for Prayer for the Holy Year  
 2025: Vol 1 - 8; \* Pilgrims of Hope on the Synodal Journey -  
 Jubilee Year Handbook by CCBI; \* Weekday and Sunday Missal  
 - English with readings; \* Konkani Missal - Reprint edition;  
 Lectionary Konkani, Kannada, English.

- Director, Mangala Jyothi

## ST JOSEPH ENGINEERING COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

### KCET/DCET/PGCET ಪ್ರವೇಶ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ - 2025

ಸಾಂ ಜುಜೆ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಲೆಜಿಂತ್ Engineering/MCA /  
 MBA ಶಿಕೊಂಕ್ ಆಸಕ್ತ ಆಸ್ಲ್ಯಾ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಂಕ್, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ  
 ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಾಚ್ಯಾ (KEA - [www.kea.kar.nic.in](http://www.kea.kar.nic.in)) ಪ್ರವೇಶ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಚಿ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ  
 ಅಶಿ ಆಸಾ:

#### Details of Exam:

##### 1. CET (PUC students)

Registration Date : 23-01-2025 To 21-02-2025

Date of Exam : 16-04-2025, 17-04-2025

##### 2. DCET (Diploma students)

Registration Date : 24-04-2025 To 10-05-2025

Date of Exam : 31-05-2025

##### 3. PGCET (UG students)

Registration Date: 24-04-2025 To 10-05-2025

Date of Exam: 22-06-2025

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಂನಿ ವೆಳಾರ್ ಹ್ಯಾ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಕ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಪಾವಿತ್ ಕರ್ನ್ ಹಾಚೊ  
 ಫಾಯ್ದೊ ಜೊಡ್ಲೊ.

- ದಿರೆಕ್ಟೊರ್, SJEC

## PROGRAMMES OF CODP

- 03.02.2025: House Visits to assess the needs of the beneficiaries under the Housing Programme, CODP
- 04.02.2025: Awareness on Constitutional Rights in Moodbidri, House Visits to assess needs of the beneficiaries under Housing Programme, CODP
- 05.02.2025: House Visits to assess the needs of the beneficiaries under the Housing Programme, CODP
- 11.02.2025: Cluster Training, Women Empowerment Project in SAMPADA, Udupi
- 15.02.2025: Awareness on Women's Rights in Vorkady
- 20.02.2025: Awareness on Global Warming and Training on Advocacy and Networking in Kotekar
- 24.02.2025: Awareness on Women's Rights in Sheni, Training on Community Development in Bajpe
- 25.02.2025: Awareness on Government Schemes in Bela, Awareness on Gender Equality and Training on Community Development in Talapady
- 27.02.2025: Training on Free Legal Services in Manjeshwar

**II. Other Information:** Bishop's Letter for CODP's Lenten Campaign - 2025.

### *Lenten Campaign 2025: 'My Lenten Sacrifice'*

Dear Rev. Fathers, Sisters, and Brothers,

We have begun 2025 with optimism and hope, and I wish you a fruitful Jubilee Year 2025. With Ash Wednesday on March 5, we begin the Lenten season, continuing our tradition of helping the needy through our Lenten sacrifices.

Parish Priests collect the Lenten sacrifices during the annual house blessings, with some starting as early as January. In 2024, we collected Rs 84,49,474/- for diocesan charities. We thank all the Lay Faithful, Religious, and Priests for their generosity.

Every year, we utilise the funds for education, health, food, medicine, and the marriages of poor girls. However, in recent

years, a large portion has been spent on housing. So far, 128 new houses have been completed, and 72 houses have been repaired. We have disbursed Rs 1,43,26,021/- from the amount saved from previous and current years' charity. Still, many applications have arrived requesting assistance.

	2024
Education	9,73,800.00
Housing	1,11,29,000.00
Health/Medicine	18,66,421.00
Food/Family Needs	2,72,800.00
Marriage	84,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,43,26,021.00</b>

This year, we have again decided to allocate a significant portion of the Lenten collection for housing, as many are seeking help to complete their homes. As in previous years, CODP will distribute envelopes for the Lenten Campaign 2025, labelled 'My Lenten Sacrifice.' Please distribute the envelopes to families and encourage them to contribute according to their means. I request the Parish Priests to collect the sealed envelopes, deposit the amounts into the Parish Account as earmarked collections, and issue a cheque for the total amount collected to CODP Mangalore.

St Paul assures us that the Lord loves a cheerful giver (cf. 2 Cor 9:6-7). May the Lord, who suffered for us, help us share in the sufferings of His poor brothers and sisters. He promises that even a cup of cold water given in His name will be rewarded (cf. Mt 10:42).

Thank you for your goodwill, and I implore God's blessings upon all.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha  
**Bishop of Mangalore**

21.01.2025

As has been done in previous years, the Lenten Campaign will be geared towards a 'Local Mission/Charity'. Kindly note:

- 1) CODP is registered under 80G (IT exemption) of the Income Tax Act.
- 2) Lenten contribution to CODP is to be credited to the respective Parish Bank Account. After this, the collective amount is to be transferred to the below-mentioned CODP Account through cheque/bank transfer/NEFT/RTGS.
- 3) In case donors want to send donations individually to CODP, they can do so to the below-mentioned CODP Account through Cheque/Bank transfer/NEFT/RTGS.
- 4) Institutes and Convents remit their collection directly to CODP. We have posted the envelopes separately to them.

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

***NOTE: Please remember to intimate CODP as soon as you send your contribution through any of the above modes of transfer.***

**- Director, CODP**

## **World Communications Day 2025**

The Catholic Church's 59th World Communications Day will be celebrated on the Sunday before Pentecost. This year, it will take place on June 1. Pope Francis has chosen the theme "*Share with Gentleness the Hope that is in Your Hearts,*" which is drawn from the First Letter of Peter (3:15-16).

The theme aims to highlight the fact that in today's world, "communication too often is violent, aimed at striking rather than establishing the conditions for dialogue." As such, it calls for efforts "to disarm communication, to cleanse it of aggression."

According to reports from Vatican News, the notes describing the theme emphasize that the prevailing cultural standard seems to be one of competition, opposition, and domination, which is evident in everything from television talk shows to verbal wars on social media. It further notes that for Christians, “hope is a person, and He is Christ.” This hope is inseparable from community, because “when we speak of Christian hope, we cannot disregard a community that lives the message of Jesus in such a credible way that it offers a glimpse of the hope it brings, and is capable of communicating the hope of Christ with deeds and words even today.”

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- \* Rev. Fr Anil Alfred DSouza, Parish Priest, St Jude Thaddaeus Church, Pakshikere, celebrates his 50th birthday on 11.02.2025.
- \* Rev. Fr Denis D’Souza, St Zuze Vaz Home, Jeppu, celebrates his 90th birthday on 15.02.2025.

*On your special day, dear Rev. Fathers, we thank God for your faithful service and the love you share with everyone around you. May your life be filled with His grace and joy. “To serve is to love, and to love is to serve. A priest’s life is the greatest example of this profound truth.” Happy Birthday!*

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