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July 2025

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME FOR JULY 2025

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|-------|-------|------|---|
| 1 | 04.00 | p.m. | CBE Governing Board Meeting, Bishop's House, Kodialbail |
| 2 | | | Visit to the Propaedeutic Seminary, <i>Divya Dham</i> , Moodbelle |
| 6-11 | | | Retreat, Pastoral Centre, Bajjodi |
| 12-13 | | | Pastoral Visit, Arva |
| 16 | 03.30 | p.m. | Governing Body Meeting, St Antony's Ashram, Jeppu |
| 17 | 03.30 | p.m. | Concetta Hospital Trust Meeting, Bishop's House |
| 19-20 | | | Pastoral Visit, Kuppepadavu |
| 24 | 09.30 | a.m. | Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, Bishop's House, Kodialbail |
| 30 | 10.30 | a.m. | CBE General Body Meeting, Bishop's House, Kodialbail. |

Bishop Meets in the Forenoon:

Diocesan Clergy, 22; Religious Men and Women, 23;
Lay Faithful, 26.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELECTION OF THE BISHOP OF MANGALORE

On **July 3, 2018**, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, in his wisdom and pastoral care, elected Rev. Dr Peter Paul Saldanha to serve as Bishop of Mangalore.

As we commemorate this anniversary of his election, we, the clergy, religious and the faithful of Mangalore, offer our heartfelt good wishes and fervent prayers for Bishop Peter Paul. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide him, strengthen him, and inspire him in his episcopal ministry.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR JULY 2025

Papal Message for July: The Pope invites us to pray that we may learn how to discern and listen to the Spirit, choosing the right paths in life that lead us to God, while rejecting those that take us away from Christ and the Gospel. Discernment is a gift of the Holy Spirit. We are called to listen to the Word of God, to the living Tradition of the Church, to the Spirit of God speaking to us through others, and to our own consciences for personal and ecclesial discernment. In these challenging times, we must actively read the signs of the times to understand God's will and put it into practice.

Pray for Peace: Every day, conflicts escalate among many nations, and lives are lost. The value of human life is often disregarded, and innocent civilians are killed. World leaders seem to prioritise the well-being of their own citizens, while the rest of the world appears to hold no value. It seems as though humanity has created geographical boundaries only to foster division and hatred. Apart from a few, everyone is crying for peace, yet it remains elusive. Children suffer the most from this trauma. Let us pray fervently that all wars may cease and that peace may prevail.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: The 5th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on Sunday, 27 July, with the theme: “Blessed are those who have not lost hope” (cf. Sir 14:2). These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, highlight the blessedness of the elderly and the hope placed in the Lord as the key to a Christian and reconciled old age. In this Jubilee year, this day is an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and Church community. The Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life invites everyone to celebrate the day in every diocese, promoting visits and opportunities for encounters between generations. Let us cherish our grandparents and the elderly, recognising their dignity and the goodness they bring.

Retreat and Spiritual Nourishment: As previously announced, the retreat will take place from July 6 to 11 at the Pastoral Centre. A retreat is a time to savour the loving presence of the Lord. After an intense mission, the Lord invited the apostles: “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while” (Mk 6:31). After long months of pastoral service, it is essential to spend more time in silence, reflecting on the marvels he has worked through us. The retreat is a time for intense prayer, and we must avoid everything that takes us away from Christ and His Gospel. Fr. Gilbert D’Lima will guide us as we encounter the Lord and taste His goodness. Please remember to bring your Personal Mass Diary to submit to the Bishop.

Diocesan Pastoral Council: The meeting will be held in the Bishop’s House on Thursday, 24 July. Please communicate this message to the DPC members from your Parish so that they may participate actively in the forthcoming meeting.

Ongoing Formation in August: Two days, 19 and 20 August, are reserved for ongoing formation of the clergy. Please mark these dates on your calendar to ensure your attendance at the programme.

Wishing you all a grace-filled Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

PASTORAL APPOINTMENTS OF PRIESTS

1. Rev. Fr Fredrick Braggs, OFM Cap., is appointed as Quasi-Parish Priest of Infant Jesus Church, Pavor Uliya, effective June 17, 2025.
2. Rev. Fr Sudeep Santhan Gonsalves, OFM Cap., is appointed as Parish Priest of St Sebastian Church, Gardady, effective June 17, 2025.
3. Rev. Fr Maxim S. D'Souza, Parish Priest of Jeppu and a Faculty member of St Joseph's Seminary, is given the additional responsibility as Treasurer of St Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Jeppu, effective June 3, 2025.
4. Rev. Fr Vincent Anil Menezes, Spiritual Director in Seminary, is given the additional responsibility as Administrator of St Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Jeppu, Mangalore, effective June 16, 2025.
5. Rev. Fr Naveen Pinto is appointed Diocesan Coordinator of Pastoral Commissions in the Diocese of Mangalore, effective June 17, 2025, with residence at Guardian Angel Church, Angelore, while continuing to serve as Judicial Vicar.
6. Rev. Fr Ashwin Lohith Cardoza is appointed by Most Rev. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore and President, Karnataka Region Catholic Bishops' Council, as Regional Secretary for Youth Commission, with effect from May 1, 2025. He will continue to serve as Director of ICYM-Mangalore for one year.
7. Rev. Fr Ajith B. Menezes is appointed Associate Director of St. John's Medical College and St. John's Research Institute, both integral parts of St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences in Bengaluru – an institution of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI), effective June 2025. The CBCI Standing Committee has confirmed this appointment.
8. Rev. Fr Flavian Rajkiran Lobo is appointed Spiritual Director of St Vincent De Paul (SVP) in the Diocese of Mangalore with effect from July 1, 2025.

9. Rev. Fr Praveen Joy Saldanha is appointed Spiritual Director of the Legion of Mary and Blue Army in the Diocese of Mangalore with effect from July 1, 2025.
10. Rev. Fr Praveen Amrith Martis is appointed Diocesan Chaplain of the Ladies' Social Service League with effect from July 1, 2025.
11. Rev. Fr Harry D'Souza is appointed Spiritual Director of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women with effect from July 1, 2025.
12. Rev. Fr Stephen Pereira, OCD, is appointed Spiritual Animator of Prison Ministry India, Mangalore, with effect from July 1, 2025.
13. Rev. Fr Michael Lobo is appointed Socius at Immaculate Conception Church, Urwa, with effect from July 1, 2025.

THE NORMS GOVERNING THE PRIESTS' PERSONNEL BOARD

1. Preamble

The idea of a Personnel Board for Priests in each diocese arises from the need for ongoing evaluation of priests' suitability for ministry. The Board ensures priests are supported, assessed, and assigned to roles where they can best serve the community and promote their personal growth. It provides an objective way to review performance, ensuring decisions on assignments and promotions are based on clear criteria, reducing the risk of subjective choices. Matching assignments to priests' strengths promotes greater satisfaction and dedication in their ministry.

The Second Vatican Council stated, "In making a judgment on the suitability of a priest for the administration of any parish, the Bishop should take into consideration not only his knowledge of doctrine, but also his piety, apostolic zeal, and other gifts and qualities necessary for the exercise of the care of souls" (*Christus*

Dominus 31). The Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops (*Apostolorum Successores*, February 22, 2004), in no. 78 underscores the need for careful evaluation of priests' suitability for ministry and for assigning them to the right roles, ensuring decisions are made with consideration of various factors and without arbitrariness:

The pastoral activity of priests must be ordered with a view, firstly, to the good of souls and the needs of the diocese, but also giving due consideration to the different aptitudes and legitimate aspirations of each priest, respecting their human and priestly dignity. Such wisdom in governing is manifested, among other things, by the following:

– In assigning offices, the Bishop should act with the greatest discretion so as to avoid even the slightest suspicion of arbitrariness, favouritism or undue pressure. To this end, he should always seek the opinion of prudent persons, and should establish the suitability of candidates, even by means of an examination (cf. cann. 149 §1-2, 521 §3).

– When conferring responsibilities, the Bishop should carefully judge the capacity of each person and should not overburden anyone with responsibilities which, in number or importance, could exceed their capacity or damage their interior life. It is not good to give too demanding a ministry to priests who have only recently completed their seminary formation, but rather to proceed gradually after fitting preparation and appropriate pastoral experience, assigning them to suitable pastors, so that in their early years of priesthood they may further develop and wisely strengthen their priestly identity.

Considering the request of the Presbyterium of the Diocese of Mangalore and following study and consultation at both the Council of Priests and Vicariate meetings, Most Rev. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, the Bishop of Mangalore, constituted a Clergy Personnel Board for the Diocese of Mangalore on July 29, 2000, during the Jubilee Year (cf. *Inter Nos*, August 2000,

pp. 128-133). However, due to various reasons, the Board did not survive beyond its initial two terms, each lasting three years. In recent years, there has been renewed demand for the establishment of the Board.

During the Clergy Pastoral Consultation held on March 20-21, 2024, several priests expressed the need for a Personnel Board for the priests of the diocese. They believed that such a Board would help streamline the aptitudes and interests of the priests in their ministry, allowing them to be directed to ministries that would enhance their work efficiency. In response, the Bishop stated that the matter would be discussed with the College of Consultors and the Council of Priests in the coming days (*Inter Nos*, June 2024, p. 125).

Accordingly, in the meeting of the College of Consultors held on January 3, 2025, a committee was formed to study the formation and develop a draft outlining the role and methodology that should be applied by the body that reviews the ministry of priests and proposes ministerial assignments to the Bishop. Following the College of Consultors' *nihil obstat* to the Committee's draft on June 19, 2025, and its subsequent favourable review by the Council of Priests on June 26, 2025, the Bishop orders that the following be observed:

2. The Name and Nature

Taking into account the nature and function of the body, it will be called the ***Priests' Personnel Board of the Diocese of Mangalore***.

The Priests' Personnel Board is an advisory body comprising the priests of the Diocese of Mangalore. It assists the Bishop in maximising the human potential within the clergy for the benefit of the diocese and the personal fulfilment of each individual priest. The Board provides the Bishop with the background information necessary to make informed decisions and proposes names of priests for higher studies and specific ministerial assignments while always respecting the Bishop's right to select and appoint

individuals to offices without consulting the Personnel Board, in accordance with the norms of the Code of Canon Law.

In making recommendations to the Bishop for assignments, the Personnel Board will consider the particular circumstances at parishes and institutions in the diocese, the priest's ability to meet those needs, and the priest's ministerial experience.

The Board aims to facilitate and promote co-responsibility within the presbyterium, ensuring that the life and ministry of the clergy contribute more effectively to the growth of the Church in Mangalore and to the well-being of the priests themselves.

3. Objectives:

- a) To assist the Bishop in realising the diocesan vision through the priests' pastoral ministry by means of spiritual and human apostolate.
- b) To assist the Bishop in an advisory capacity by recommending priests of the diocese for ministry in various diocesan institutions or for supra-diocesan ministry.
- c) To support the priests of the diocese in an ongoing, collaborative (teamwork) capacity by gathering sufficient information about their capabilities.
- d) To serve the people of the diocese by responding to their pastoral needs and those of the institutions under the diocese.

4. Functions:

The Board will assist the Bishop in conducting a professional study of the potential of the diocesan priests and suggest ways in which these potentials can be developed and utilised for the benefit of the diocese and the personal growth of the priests themselves.

The Board will support the evaluation and assessment of a priest's ministry, capacities, and talents in his current place of ministry and recommend either further studies in a specific area or assignment to a particular ministry within the diocese.

This will involve:

1. a) Providing the Bishop with research tools for studying the potential and ministerial performance of priests, evaluating, and assisting him in administering and interpreting the data gathered through these instruments. To this effect, they will collect data recording the talents, focus of the apostolate, sense of dedication and priestly maturity, motivation, achievements, failures, and expectations, and update the records regularly.
- b) Recommending avenues for the ongoing personal and ministerial growth of individual priests, taking into account the present needs and future prospects of ministries that require priests to head.
- c) Assisting the Bishop in the study and assessment of job satisfaction and the work climate of the priests, with the aim of reducing inefficacy, mediocrity, and grievance, thereby promoting growth in ministerial performance and joy in priestly service.
2. a) Members of the Board will meet regularly and systematically with the diocesan priests to promote teamwork and assess the work climate in the presbyterium, with a view to offering suggestions for improvement
- b) The Board will make available to the Bishop data on priests, parishes and institutions that will assist in matters related to appointments and placements.
- c) The Board will provide input to the Council of Priests, College of Consultors, and the Vicars Forane regarding matters concerning the life and ministry of the priests of the diocese.

5. Competence:

- a) The Board's primary focus shall not be on the assessment and ministerial assignment for roles such as Parish Priest, Assistant Parish Priest, and other parochial ministries. Instead, the Board will focus on ongoing formation, specialisation in

specific areas, and proposals for non-parochial offices or ministries. In the area of parochial ministries, if deemed advisable, the Bishop may consult the College of Consultors for advice.

- b) The Board will, however, primarily assess all Assistant Parish Priests and priests with up to twenty years of priestly life, in the context of their continued formation and preparation for specialised non-parochial ministries within the diocese.
- c) The Board will consider assessment, higher studies, and placement advice in the following contexts:
 - (i) Higher Studies in Scriptures, Catechetics, Family Life, Counselling, Communication and Journalism, Canon Law, and other ecclesiastical or secular studies, which are necessary to serve in various institutions, such as DBCLC, Family Life Service and Counselling, Canara Communication Centre, and seminaries.
 - (ii) Higher Studies in Administration (Business, Human Resources, Finance, Hospital Management, Industry), Education (Academics), and Social Development to meet the needs of diocesan schools and colleges, socio-development institutions, hospitals, medical and engineering colleges, industrial workshops, printing press, service stations, and other related concerns.
- d) The Board will primarily focus on the following institutions: Father Muller Charitable Institutions (FMCI), St. Joseph Engineering College (SJEC), Canara Organisation for Development and Peace (CODP), St. Joseph Workshop, St. Anthony Charity Institute, Codialbail Press, Bettadamane Estate, Diocesan Estate, Pastoral Institute, Catholic Board of Education (CBE), DBCLC, SCC/BEC, Family Life Service, Friendship House, ICYM, YCS/YSM, Counselling Centre, Raknno, Canara Communication Centre, Minor Seminaries (Gladsom and Kripa Sadhana).
- e) The Board will be competent to serve as the stably established group specified in canon 1742 §1, having the function stated in canons 1745, 2° and 1750 when called for in the context of the procedure for the removal or transfer of Parish Priests.

6. Formation of the Board:

The credibility of the Board will largely depend on the extent to which its members are accepted by the presbyterium, as the Board presents comprehensive and focused ministerial review and placement proposals. The Bishop's serious consideration of these proposals will also play a key role, ensuring that the presbyterium views the Board as a valuable pastoral body that enriches both the personnel and the mission of the diocese.

- a) Eligibility: Only priests incardinated in the Diocese of Mangalore are eligible to serve on the Board. They must
 - (i) be actively engaged in a ministry position assigned by the Bishop
 - (ii) have been a priest for at least 10 years and
 - (iii) be in good standing, as determined by the Bishop.
- b) Composition: Each Vicariate will elect one representative from the Vicariate, with the exception of the Episcopal Vicariate, which will have four members, and the City Vicariate, which will have two members. One of the representatives from the Episcopal and City Vicariates should be from a diocesan institution. The members thus elected as representatives will form the General Body.

In electing the representatives, the priests of the Vicariate should choose priests who

- (i) know the priests of the diocese,
 - (ii) have the required experience, integrity, and approachability,
 - (iii) are impartial in discharging their functions as members of the Board,
 - (iv) capable of maintaining confidentiality and
 - (v) have concern for the good of the priests and the diocese.
- c) Election of Personnel Board Members: Members elected from the Vicariates will elect four members to the Board from among themselves, ensuring that at least one of them serves in a diocesan institution.

- d) Director: The Bishop will appoint a Director of the Board, selected from the Council of Priests, based on his judgment of suitability. Consequently, the Board will consist of five members.
- e) Secretary: The Secretary will be chosen from one of the four members of the Board.
- f) Mode of Election: All elections at any level will be conducted by secret ballot. To be elected, a candidate must receive an absolute majority (50% + 1) of the votes from those present. The quorum for the electoral meeting shall be the absolute majority of diocesan priests in active ministry in the Vicariate. This secret ballot guarantees the freedom of electors and ensures the acceptability of the candidate to the majority.
- g) Term of Service: The term of each member, including the Director, is three years and is renewable only once.
- h) Loss of Membership: If a representative elected to the General Body from the Vicariate loses membership due to resignation, loss of active ministry, or transfer from the Vicariate, the Vicariate may elect a new representative. However, a member of the Personnel Board will only lose membership through resignation (subject to Bishop's acceptance) or removal. In such cases, the Board will elect a replacement from the General Body to serve for the remainder of the term.

7. Meetings:

- a) The Personnel Board shall meet three times a year and, if necessary, more frequently. The quorum for the meeting is four members.
- b) Meetings with members and priests will be held in-camera, with strict confidentiality.
- c) The Personnel Board is bound by professional secrecy, and each priest's natural right to privacy and good reputation shall be scrupulously observed. Furthermore, this helps avoid confusion and unfounded expectations. This obligation of confidentiality continues even after a member's term on the Personnel Board expires and extends to those who may be consulted as part of the Board's work.

- d) The whole body, consisting of the representatives of each Vicariate, shall be called the General Body of the Personnel Board and shall meet at least once a year or more frequently if needed. The quorum shall be the majority of the members as representatives.
- e) The Director of the Personnel Board will preside over the Personnel Board meetings and the meetings of the General Body, unless the Bishop is present. The Secretary of the Personnel Board will also serve as the secretary of the General Body and will record the minutes of the meetings.

8. Principles for Review and Proposals

- a) Good of the Church and the Priest: As required by his calling to the priesthood, every priest must subordinate his personal preferences to the pastoral needs of the people and the mission of the Church. He should serve where he is most needed, with his assignment contributing to his personal, spiritual, and ministerial growth.
- b) Ministerial review or evaluation should be seen as a reflection of the Church's role in equipping its ministers. It is important to emphasise that this review is not judgmental or threatening. It is not a test or investigation to penalise a priest. Rather, it is intended to be a positive contribution of affirmation, appreciative feedback from others who care, a collaborative process, and, most of all, a solid foundation for ongoing personal formation. It also contributes to the development and nurturing of ministerial leadership and effectiveness.
- c) To be effective, ministerial evaluation should conform to the S.A.V.E. principle. Ministerial evaluation should be:
 - (i) *Specific*. Specificity refers to the exactness and clarity in seeking information—both about the parish/institution and the priest. Evaluation items should elicit and convey accurate information regarding the abilities and activities of the priest minister.

- (ii) *Appropriate*. Appropriateness goes beyond specificity by ensuring that evaluation responses align with the ministry functions expected of a priest in a given role. It assumes established job expectations and focuses on relevance. Continuity in ministry is key, as changes in personnel should reflect the ongoing needs and direction of the ministry.
- (iii) *Viable*. Viability focuses on the administration of the evaluation, considering the skills, experience, and qualifications needed to perform tasks, the priest's potential for growth, and their compatibility within the organisation. It also evaluates the sustainability of performance, relationship dynamics, stress management, and adaptability to future changes. This reflects congruity in ministry, where a priest's personality, qualifications, and talents align with the needs of the ministry.
- (iv) *Ethical*. Ethics in ministerial evaluation concerns the integrity of the process and the use of the evaluation results. The integrity of the process safeguards the confidentiality rights of the person being evaluated and ensures that the evaluation is free from arbitrariness and favouritism.

9. Review and Proposal of the Board:

- a) In assigning newly ordained priests, priority must be given to their spiritual and professional growth in ministry. They should be placed under the guidance of an able Parish Priest who will serve as a good mentor and an example of priestly service. Seminary reports, inputs from their diaconate, Parish Priest, and others such as the Director of the Pastoral Institute, who has interacted with them during their ongoing formation, will be invaluable tools for the Bishop in making decisions regarding their first ministerial assignment, which should preferably be in a parish.
- b) For priests, within the first 10 years after ordination, the Board will conduct an annual review of their ministry. For priests in their 11th to 20th year, there will be a biennial review. This evaluation is a regular process, not just tied to the time of transfers.

- c) The ongoing needs of the diocese are the primary motivation for further studies. A priest may express his desire for further studies to the Bishop or the Personnel Board. In either case, the Personnel Board will be diligent in identifying the needs of the diocese and evaluating the candidate's suitability for further studies to address these needs.
- d) The assessment is based on personal knowledge of the Board members, a review of the priest's performance records, and inquiries from knowledgeable sources, including individuals from previous assignments.
- e) In assessing or reviewing, the Board will take into consideration the interview with the priest under evaluation (if called for), as well as the oral and written reports from the Parish Priest/Director, Vicar Forane, and other selected priests and religious who know the priest well. The Board may seek the opinion of additional individuals if deemed appropriate.
- f) The Bishop may also propose certain names to the Board for further input if he believes they are suitable for certain ministries or programme of studies, but seeks additional insights from the Board.
- g) When proposing a list of names to the Bishop for higher studies or specific ministerial assignments, the Board should propose at least three names for each area of study or ministry, along with reasons that justify their suggestions and motivate the decision-making process. This list should be prepared by the Board and submitted to the Bishop by January 15 of each year.

10. Conclusion

Evaluation, like learning, is an ongoing process, not a product. When viewed as a process, it paves the way for the development of informed, relevant, and compassionate leaders and pastors. Prayerful discernment of appointments is an exercise in synodality for *mission*. As one Bishop framed it: "God has given us the exact number of priests we need right now, and it is up to us to discern how best to use them for the mission of this local Church."

The procedure for assigning priests for higher studies and ministries aims to align the talents, strengths, and dispositions of a particular priest with the needs of the people and the good of the diocese served by a specific assignment. Along with the responsibility of assigning clergy comes the need to be informed—about individual parishes, institutions and apostolates so as to select clergy who will best respond to the needs of the People of God; and about the desires, talents, skills, and needs of the clergy. Both of these elements are essential to the primary task of this Personnel Board. This procedure will also require the full cooperation of all those involved.

The task of the Personnel Board addresses some of the priests' needs for personal development within the Church, while the fundamental reason for this policy is to ensure the best possible ministry to the People of God, the service of the parish or the institution, and above all "to the praise of His glorious grace" (Eph 1:6).

Following review by the College of Consultors and upon obtaining the favourable opinion of the Council of Priests, I hereby promulgate these norms on 29 June 2025. They shall become effective from 03 July 2025, the Feast of St Thomas, the Apostle.

The Vicars Forane are directed to elect representatives from their respective Vicariates to the General Body of the Priests' Personnel Board. This election must adhere to established norms, and the names of those elected must be submitted to the Bishop by August 10, 2025.

Following this, the General Body will convene by the end of August 2025 to elect the members of the Priests' Personnel Board. The newly constituted Board will then officially take effect in the Diocese on September 15, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

MSGR LESLIE SHENOY SCHOLARSHIP

All Parish Priests in the Diocese of Mangalore are hereby informed that the second batch of deserving students will receive scholarships from this fund during the 2025-2026 academic year. The eligibility criteria for the scholarship are explained below. The Catholic Board of Education (CBE) is grateful to Msgr Leslie Shenoy and prays that God may bless him with good health and peace of mind. Parish Priests are kindly asked to make an announcement in their parishes.

Eligibility for Scholarship

1. The 'Merit cum Need Scholarship' is meant for Catholic students studying in I PUC in institutions ***under the management of the 'Catholic Board of Education'.***
2. The eligibility criteria for this scholarship are as follows:
 - a) The students who apply for the 'Merit cum Need Scholarship' and are currently studying in **Arts, Commerce, and Science** should have secured atleast 60%, 70%, and 80% respectively in 10th standard to be qualified for each of the disciplines.
 - b) The students should come from poor economic (low-income) backgrounds.
 - c) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. Documents to be submitted:
 - a) A sealed recommendation letter from the parish priest.
 - b) An income certificate issued by the competent government authorities.
 - c) A copy of the marks card of the 10th std examination.
4. The hard copy of the duly filled application should reach the CBE office before **July 20, 2025.**
5. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.

(NB: The application forms will be available in the PU College offices under the management of CBE).

- Secretary, CBE

PRERAN: SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME ON CIVIL SERVICES

Objective: To educate students about the importance of civil services, the various types of civil services, and the efforts required to join the civil services. The programme also aims to help students identify their aptitude for civil services.

Participants: Students of 7th to 10th grades (academic year 2025-26) and Parents of participating students

Duration: 2 hours:

Resource Persons: Mr Francis D'Cunha; Prof. Ronald Pinto
Mr Patrick Braggs; Mrs Vijetha Pinky
D'Sa, and Mrs Sheryl Prabhu

For arranging the programmes in Parishes or Deaneries, kindly contact:

Fr Praveen Leo Lasrado, Secretary, CBE: 9448868850

Sr Mariette B.S.: 7892508033

Fr Vincent D'Souza, Secretary, CODP: 9483564101

Mr Charles Pais, Vamanjoor: 9448160154

The programme is free of cost!

- Secretary, CBE

ICYM PROGRAMMES

1. ICYM Central Council AGM & Elections

Date : July 6; Time: 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Venue : Rosario Cultural Hall, Mangalore

This will be the Annual General Meeting, along with the elections for the ICYM Central Council of the Diocese of Mangalore. All eligible voters are especially requested to be present for the AGM. Parish and deanery directors are also encouraged to take part in this important event. There is a minimal registration fee, which the unit can cover.

2. Training for ICYM Animators (New & Old) and Youth Commission Coordinators

Date : July 13; Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Venue : Milagres Degree College, Mangalore

Topics to be covered include: Understanding Gen Z, The Role of Animators, Sharing Session, Tips for the Betterment and Empowerment of Youth, Youth Commission Programmes, Information on the ICYM Handbook, Details regarding Youth Awards, Q&A Session.

3. We kindly request you to send all ICYM animators (both new and experienced) as well as Youth Commission Coordinators for this important training. Participation certificates will be issued to all attendees. There is a minimal registration fee.

- Fr Ashwin L. Cardoza
Director, ICYM

BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES (BEC)

Programmes July 2025

Date	Event/Programme	Venue	Time
06 July	Parish Coordinators' Training – St Joseph Vaz Deanery	Mudipu Parish	9:00 a.m.
10 July	Parish Level BEC Training Programme	Badyar Parish	8:00 a.m.
13 July	Parish Level BEC Training Programme	Narampady Parish	9:00 a.m.
27 July	BEC Convention Planning Meeting	BEC Office Bajjodi	4:00 a.m.

The Diocesan-Level BEC (SCC) Convention will be held on August 10, 2025, at Cordel Hall, Kulshekar, from 9:00 a.m. onwards. We kindly request all parish priests to encourage their Parish BEC Commission Members to actively participate in this important gathering. The convention will focus on the theme: “BECs: Pilgrim People, Living the Synodal Church.”

- **Director, BEC**

COMMISSION FOR BIBLE

1. **Vatek Divo** (Lamp to my Steps—Ps 119:105) — Ward Level-Bible Quiz at St Francis Xavier Church, Ferar on 06 July 2025 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
2. **‘EMMAUS’: Monthly Bible Convention** at Holy Cross Church, Cordel on 18 July 2025 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in association with Mangalore Diocesan Service Communion (MDSC).

3. Bible Classes:

- a) St Jude - Mangalore North Vicariate-Level Bible Class, Kirem

Topic : Bible Classes on the Gospel of Luke – “*To Proclaim the Good News to the Poor*” – for the priests, religious, and Laity in Konkani.

Date : 12, 19, 26 July 2025 and 02, 09 August 2025 from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Venue : Church Hall, Kinnigoly.

- b) St Paul - Eastern Vicariate-Level Bible Class, Puttur

Topic : Bible Classes on the Gospel of Mark – “*Mark’s Gospel as a Story*” – for the parishioners and other enthusiastic faithful of the deanery in Konkani.

Date : 13, 20, 27 July 2025 and 03, 10 August 2025 from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Venue : Church Hall, Puttur.

- c) Bible Class on the Gospel of Matthew concludes at Holy Cross Church, Cordel, 05 July 2025, Saturday from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. *Venue:* Church Hall, Cordel.
- d) Guardian Angel Church, Angelore.
Topic: Bible Classes on the Gospel of Matthew – “*God With Us*” – for the parishioners and other enthusiastic faithful of the deanery in Konkani.
Date: 23, 24, 30 June and 01, 07, 08, 14, 15, 21, 22 July 2025
Mondays and Tuesdays from 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Venue: Church Hall, Angelore.
- e) St Francis Xavier Church, Bejai
Topic: Bible Classes on the Gospel of Luke – “*To Proclaim the Good News to the Poor*” – for the parishioners and other enthusiastic faithful of the deanery in Konkani.
Date: 02, 03, 09, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 July 2025;
Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
Venue: Lourdes Central School Conference Hall.
- f) St Sebastian Church, Bendur.
Topic: Bible Classes on the Gospel of Matthew – “*God With Us*” – for the parishioners and other enthusiastic faithful of the deanery in Konkani.
Date: 28, 29 July and 04, 05, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 August 2025
Mondays and Tuesdays from 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.
Venue: Church Premises, Bendur.
4. To encourage people to read and study the Bible, a monthly online Bible quiz has been organised. We kindly request that you encourage people to participate in this initiative. ***Monthly Bible Quiz July 2025 (Online) on the Book of Leviticus and the Gospel of Luke will be held on 26 July 2025 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*** The online link will be circulated from 01 July 2025.

- Fr Vincent Sequeira
Secretary, Commission for Bible

MANGALA JYOTHI

I. July Programmes / Events:

- 1-5 : Catechetical Course, Seminary
- 5 : Catechism teachers' ongoing training – Surathkal Deanery
- 6 : Sunday Catechism coordinators' training and evaluation
- 7 : School Catechism coordinators' training and evaluation
- 10 : Liturgy Commission - Regional Meeting at Bangalore
- 12 : Extraordinary ministers' recollection, Valencia Parish
- 13 : Catechism teachers' ongoing training – Maniampare parish
- 17 : Faith Formation - Regional Meeting at Bangalore

II. Commission for Faith Formation - Information

1. **Priest Coordinators for Faith Formation and Liturgy at the Deanery Level:** Deans of the respective deaneries are requested to appoint a priest coordinator for Liturgy as well as for Faith Formation, if you have not appointed one yet. Please complete the process by 30 July 2025.

The Priest Coordinator will take care of Liturgy and Faith formation at the Deanery level. He will organise a) Deanery level catechism teachers follow-up seminars b) Collect report from the parish coordinators at the end of the year c) Choir Members' or other required liturgical training at the deanery level in consultation with Mangala Jyothi team.

2. **Registration of Students' data online:** Parish catechism coordinators are requested to register students' details online by visiting www.mangalajyothi.com / parish login / Sunday Catechism students' data. **It is mandatory. Kindly complete the process (from I Std. to X Std.) before 15 July 2025 if you have not completed it yet.** If you have not received user id and password, kindly contact 8277937784 or info@mangalajyothi.com

3. **Newly Selected Catechists' Training:** This year, we trained 124 newly selected catechists and issued certificates to them. I thank all the parish priests and coordinators for taking special interest in the catechetical apostolate.
4. **YOUCAT Ministry:** I request that all YCS units, as well as ICYM units, appoint a YOUCAT representative to carry out YOUCAT study and ministry. YCS and ICYM Diocesan Directors will guide you in this aspect.
1. **YOUCAT for Kids and Adult Catechism:** As I informed you last year, CCBI has published Adult Catechism books in three volumes, which contain necessary adult catechetical material based on various themes. The YOUCAT foundation has also released an Indian edition of the kids' catechism. These books are very useful and resourceful. We recommend that every parish have one set of books in its catechetical library. The books are available at the Mangala Jyothi stall. The books are provided at a discounted price.
6. **Diocesan Level Coordinators' Meeting:**
 - a) **Sunday Catechism coordinators meeting and evaluation:** 06-07-2025 Sunday, 8.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. (Sunday Mass included), no Registration fee.
 - b) **School Catechism Coordinators/VE Teachers' Representatives' Meeting and Evaluation:** 07-07-2025 Monday, 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. No registration fee.

Please communicate the above message to the coordinators and note that the last date to register participants' names is 5 July 2025.

III. Commission for Liturgy-Information:

Extraordinary Ministry: We have trained 158 newly selected extraordinary ministers this year. Please follow the guidelines issued in the *Inter Nos* of May, p. 105 and of June, p. 131.

- Director, Mangala Jyothi

CODP PROGRAMMES

- 01.07.2025 : CODP Field staff program planning and evaluation in CODP, Awareness on Understanding Dementia by Susheg Jivith; organised by CODP and BLA in CODP
- 06.07.2025 : Training on Strengthening of Okkoota in Taremakei
- 08.07.2025 : Training on Local Resource Mobilisation in Moodbidri,
Awareness on Free Legal Services in Talapady,
Grassroots federation meeting in Moodbidri
- 11.07.2025 : Training on Panchayath Raj in Fajir
- 12.07.2025 : Training on Panchayath Raj in Vijayadka
- 16.07.2025 : Women Empowerment Programme Planning in CODP
- 22.07.2025 : Training on Communication and Listening in Talapady
- 27.07.2025 : CODP Educare Endowment Fund Programme education loan disbursement in Rosario Church Hall,
Training on Documentation at Shenj
- 28.07.2025 : Training on Gender equality at Bajpe, Awareness on government schemes in Bela

Information to the Parish Priests:

a. Educare (interest-free loan): Please send Educare loan applications with your recommendations by 31.10.2025, and kindly follow up on the repayment of Educare loan (overdue) before recommending new applicants.

b. Lenten Campaign 2025: Gentle reminder to remit your Lenten Collection amount to CODP. Please notify the CODP office for the issuance of a receipt. We are yet to receive the Lenten Collection from **38** Parishes. We request the Parish Priests of these parishes to urge their parishioners to offer their Lenten envelopes to the Church at the earliest.

c. Diocesan CODP Golden Jubilee Housing Project: (see *Inter Nos*, June 2025, p. 135)

	New House Beneficiaries	House Repair Beneficiaries	Total
Application Received	323	212	535
Completed Houses	161	92	253
Rejected Applications	43	13	56
Pending Applications	119	107	226

- Fr Vincent D'Souza, Secretary, CODP

**MANGALORE DIOCESAN
SERVICE COMMUNION (MDSC)**
(Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement)

Since its inception in 1975, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) Movement has played a pivotal role in fostering spiritual renewal and deepening the faith of the Catholic community within the Diocese of Mangalore. The Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Mangalore is currently under the spiritual and administrative guidance of Diocesan Spiritual Director Rev. Fr Clifford Fernandes and Diocesan Coordinator Mr. Kevan D'Souza.

Reconstitution of the MDSC Core Team: In accordance with the norms governing the movement, the tenure of each MDSC office bearer is limited to a period of three years. The reconstitution of the upcoming team will take place through a two-day session of prayer, retreat, and discernment. This event is scheduled for **July 19-20, 2025**, and will culminate in the election of new team members. The session will be held at the Conference Hall, Bishop's House, Codialbail, Mangalore.

Diocesan Directives to Strengthen the Movement: In a continued effort to revitalise and reinforce the Charismatic Renewal across all levels of the diocese, the Bishop of Mangalore has issued the following directives:

I. At the Parish Level: All Parish Priests are earnestly requested to establish a **Prayer/Intercessory Group** within their respective parishes and to appoint a **Lay Coordinator** to oversee and promote Charismatic Renewal activities. The appointed individual must be accompanied by a recommendation letter and meet the following criteria:

- a) Must be a practising Catholic and a registered member of the parish.
- b) Should be actively involved in at least one parish association (e.g., SCC, PPP, Commissions).
- c) Must have either made prior contributions to the Renewal Movement or express a genuine desire to serve in this apostolate.
- d) Must participate in the two-day spiritual discernment session scheduled for **July 19 and 20, 2025**.

II. At the Deanery Level: All Deans are requested to appoint a **priest** to serve as the **Spiritual Director** for Charismatic Renewal activities within their respective deaneries. This initiative aims to foster pastoral clarity, doctrinal soundness and unity in mission across parishes within each deanery.

III. Organisational Structure of the Renewal Movement: To ensure a well-coordinated and spiritually effective structure, the movement shall be organised at the following levels:

- a) **Parish Level:** A small Prayer/Intercessory Group under the leadership of a Lay Coordinator
- b) **Deanery Level:** A Lay Coordinator supported by a Priest Spiritual Director to provide pastoral and spiritual oversight
- c) **Diocesan Level:** A Central Team comprising lay leaders and clergy, responsible for formulating vision, facilitating

coordination, and providing overall leadership for the movement within the diocese

IV. Forthcoming Event: Diocesan Mega Bible Convention

We are pleased to announce that the next **Diocesan Mega Bible Convention** will be held during the **first week of Lent**, from **February 26 to March 1, 2026**. This spiritually significant event will bring together the faithful from across the diocese for a time of worship, Scripture-based teachings, and charismatic renewal. All are warmly encouraged to participate and experience the transforming power of God's Word.

With heartfelt gratitude and prayers, we entrust this journey of renewal to the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, that the Diocese of Mangalore may continue to flourish in faith, unity, and service.

- **Fr Clifford Fernandes**
Diocesan Spiritual Director

From the Address of Pope Leo XIV to Seminarians and Formators on 25 June 2025: Without doubt, each one of you “is the protagonist of his own formation and is called to a journey of constant growth in the human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral spheres” (Congregation for the Clergy, *The Gift of Priestly Formation*, 130); but *protagonists* does not mean *soloists*! Therefore, I invite you always to cultivate communion, first of all with your seminary companions. Have complete trust in your formators, without reserve or duplicity. And you, formators, be good companions to the seminarians entrusted to you: offer them the humble witness of your life and your faith; accompany them with sincere affection. Know that you are all supported by the Church, first and foremost in the person of the Bishop.

Finally, the most important thing: keep your eyes fixed on Jesus (cf. Heb 12:2), cultivating the relationship of friendship with Him. ... as Pope Francis wrote in the Encyclical *Dilexit nos*, “never to be ashamed to tell others, with all due discretion and respect, about your friendship with him. He asks that you dare to tell others how good and beautiful it is that you found him” (no. 211).

GOLDEN BIRTHDAY

Rev. Fr Kiran Maxim Pinto, Parish Priest, Vamadapadavu, is celebrating his 50th birthday on 01.07.2025.

On this truly special day, we celebrate not just your life but the profound impact you have had on so many hearts. May God continue to bless you abundantly with health, happiness, and peace as you continue your devoted ministry.

R.I.P.

Mrs Stella S. Pinto (86 years), mother of Rev. Fr Pius Fidelis Pinto, passed away on 22.06.2025. Her funeral took place on 23.06.2025 at Our Lady of Pompei Church, Gurpur.

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