

INTERNOS

RNI. No. KARBIL/2007/20997

Regn. No. MNG/991/2025-27

Vol. 20

No. 3

March 2026

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME FOR MARCH 2026

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|-------|-------|------|---|
| 1 | 09.30 | a.m. | Catechism Day Celebration, Pastoral Centre |
| | 05.00 | p.m. | Mass, Bible Convention, Cordel Church Grounds |
| 2 | 03.30 | p.m. | Mount Rosary Trust Meeting, Alangar |
| 5 | 09.30 | a.m. | Ecumenical Recollection, Bejai Hall |
| | 04.00 | p.m. | Governing Board Meeting, CBE, Bishop's House, Kodialbail |
| 6 | 08.45 | a.m. | Session on Pastoral Life, Christu Jyothi College, Bangalore |
| 7-8 | | | Pastoral Visit, Neermarga |
| 9-13 | | | Bishops' Retreat, Chickmagalur |
| 17 | 10.00 | a.m. | Concetta Hospital Trust Meeting, Bishop's House, Kodialbail |
| 18 | 04.00 | p.m. | CODP Governing Board Meeting, Bishop's House, Kodialbail |
| 21-22 | | | Pastoral Visit, Maril |
| 23 | 04.00 | p.m. | Diocesan Finance Council, Bishop's House |
| 24 | 09.30 | a.m. | Governing Board Meeting, Propaedeutic Seminary, Moodbelle |
| 25-26 | | | Pastoral Consultation, Sambram Hall, St Antony's, Jeppu |
| 31 | 05.00 | p.m. | Mass and Way of the Cross, Pezar |

Bishop Meets in the Forenoon:

Diocesan Clergy, 16; Religious Men and Women, 18; Lay Faithful, 30.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH 2026

1. Papal Intention for March: Pope Leo has urged us to pray that nations pursue every possible avenue for disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence. Many wars could be prevented if constructive dialogue were initiated and diplomatic relations strengthened. A lack of goodwill on both sides, along with a tendency to retaliate, causes significant damage to lives and property. May our prayers rise to heaven so that world leaders make every possible effort to disarm nations and to value and protect human life and property.

2. Women's Day – March 8: On this Women's Day, we gratefully acknowledge and celebrate the dignity, vocation, and invaluable contribution of every woman. As St John Paul II beautifully expressed in his *Letter to Women* (1995), the Church and the world say "thank you" to women—for being mothers, daughters, sisters, wives, consecrated persons, and professionals, and for enriching society with their unique "feminine genius." Women reveal in a special way the capacity for welcome, sensitivity, generosity, and steadfast love. They remind humanity that true greatness is found not in domination, but in self-giving. May every woman be respected, supported, and given the space to flourish in her God-given dignity and mission.

2. Pastoral Consultation: On the 25th and 26th of March, we will hold the Pastoral Consultation at Sambram Hall, St Antony's Ashram. Issues related to our pastoral life, liturgy, children, youth, faith formation, and education will receive special attention and deeper reflection. As this year has been designated the Year of Children, I appeal to all the priests to suggest creative ways to make it truly fruitful. A few programmes have already been proposed at the diocesan and parish levels, and some are currently being implemented. May the children, who held a privileged place in the heart of Christ, find a profound echo in our hearts as well. May they truly experience that the Church loves them.

3. The Chrism Mass will be held on the 26th in the evening (5.00 pm) at the Cathedral. It is a moment of profound spiritual renewal,

when the entire presbyterium, along with the religious and the laity, gathers around the altar of the Lord in unity.

The oils that are blessed signify God's desire to share the life of our Lord Jesus Christ with us and to enter into a personal communion with each one. Through these sacred oils, our people are sanctified, and the Lord consoles and strengthens them with His Spirit. May our presence and our prayers for the whole Church rise to heaven for our local Church.

4. Way of the Cross at Pezar: On 31 March, following the Holy Mass at 5:00 pm, the traditional Way of the Cross will take place, proceeding in prayer to the Hill of the Holy Cross. This year's theme is "Touch the Suffering Flesh of Christ" (*Dilexi Te*, 49). Kindly announce the Way of the Cross at Pezar in all the churches so that more and more faithful may participate with their families. May our care and concern for suffering humanity—in whom Christ continues to suffer—resonate in every heart. May this spiritual event bear abundant fruits for all.

5. Holy Week: This year, Holy Week runs from Palm Sunday, March 29, to Easter Sunday, April 5. It is a sacred time of immense grace—not only for our people but also for us who are called to shepherd them. I urge you to celebrate the sacred liturgies with deep devotion and careful preparation, so that through our ministry the faithful may truly experience the nearness, compassion, and saving love of Christ. Holy Thursday reminds us in a special way of the gift and responsibility of our priesthood. Good Friday brings us to the foot of the Cross, where we rediscover the meaning of our vocation: to lay down our lives in love, uniting our burdens and sacrifices with Christ. The Easter Vigil and the joy of the Resurrection renew our certainty that light conquers darkness and life triumphs over death. As shepherds, we are called to be living witnesses of this hope—men of faith who are alive, courageous, and radiant.

May Our Lady of Sorrows pray for us as we accompany her in her great pain.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

DIOCESAN PASTORAL CONSULTATION - 2026

The Mangalore Diocesan Pastoral Consultation will take place on **Wednesday, 25 March and Thursday, 26 March 2026 at Sambram Hall, St Antony's Charity Institutes, Jeppu**. All priests and deacons of the Diocese of Mangalore, as well as religious priests in active ministry—whether serving as superiors or working in institutions and parishes—will participate in this Consultation. The Consultation will focus on pastoral issues.

PROGRAMME AND TIME TABLE

Wednesday – 25 March

9.00	am	Registration
9.15	am	Prayer
9.25	am	Welcome
9.35	am	Session One: Pastoral Issues – Changes in the New Translation of the Konkani Missal
10.30	am	Tea Break
10.45	am	Session Two: Pastoral Issues – Liturgical and Catechetical
12.20	pm	Midday Prayer
12.30	pm	Lunch
2.30–4.00	pm	Session Three: Other Pastoral Matters
4.00	pm	Tea

Thursday 26 March

9.00	am	Prayer
9.15	am	Session One: Children, Youth and related matters
10.15	am	Tea Break
10.30	am	Session Two: Other Pastoral Issues
12.00	pm	Two General Body Meetings: Parish Union and P.A.F.
12.30	pm	Bishop's Message
12.45	pm	Vote of Thanks
10.00	pm	Lunch
2.45	pm	Tea at Rosario Cathedral
3.00	pm	Recollection Talk: Rev. Fr Ivan Mendonca, S.J.
3.40	pm	Confessions (Adoration)
5.00	pm	Chrism Mass

Rev. Fr Joseph Martis
Secretary, Council of Priests

Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

**HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO
REV. DR LESLIE CLIFFORD D'SOUZA
BISHOP-ELECT OF UDUPI**

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV appointed Fr Leslie Clifford D'Souza as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Udupi. This appointment was officially made public from Rome on Saturday, 31 January 2026 and received with joy by everyone who knew and had heard about the Bishop-Elect.

Fr Leslie D'Souza was born on 19 August 1962 in Uchila (Yermal), then part of the Diocese of Mangalore. He completed his primary education at Saraswati Mandir Higher Primary School, Uchila, and his secondary education at Government Fisheries High School, Yermal. He pursued his pre-university studies at Poorna Prajnya College, Adamar. He studied Philosophy and Theology at St. Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Mangaluru, earning a B.A., and a Bachelor of Theology. His academic journey continued with an M.A. in English, a Diploma in Depth Psychology and Formation, a Licentiate in Theology, and a Doctorate in Moral Theology.

He was ordained a priest on 10 May 1990, initially incardinated in the Diocese of Mangalore and later in the Diocese of Udupi, when this diocese came into existence. Over the years, he has rendered dedicated service in numerous pastoral and administrative roles, including: Assistant Parish Priest, Holy Rosary Church, Kundapur; Assistant Parish Priest, Holy Cross Church, Kulshekar; Professor of Moral Theology, St. Joseph's Interdiocesan Seminary, Mangalore; Parish Priest, St. John the Evangelist Church, Pangala; Parish Priest, Our Lady of Rosary Church, Kallianpur; Parish Priest, Our Lady of Health Church, Shirva, and Dean of Shirva Deanery.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Fr Leslie. We rejoice with gratitude that he served as a priest of the Diocese of Mangalore, dedicating himself to this local Church with joy and generosity until the Diocese of Udupi was formed. His years of faithful priestly ministry and pastoral

leadership — marked by humility, integrity, and compassionate care — truly reflect the heart of a good shepherd. We pray that the Lord will richly bless him with wisdom, strength, and abundant grace as he guides the faithful with courage and love, and leads the Diocese toward deeper faith and all-round growth.

REVISED PRENUPTIAL ENQUIRY FORMS

The Prenuptial Enquiry Forms for use in the Diocese of Mangalore have been carefully revised and updated. All parishes are requested to begin using the new forms with effect from 1 April 2026. The updated forms are available for purchase at the Mangala Jyothi Centre.

The prenuptial enquiry is not merely a procedural or administrative formality; it is a serious ecclesial and pastoral responsibility. Beyond verifying the absence of canonical impediments, it provides a sacred opportunity for personal pastoral dialogue between the parish priest and the couple, helping them prepare consciously and faithfully for the Sacrament of Marriage.

When carried out with attentiveness, compassion, and clarity, the prenuptial enquiry becomes a moment of evangelization and pastoral care. It safeguards the validity of the sacrament, strengthens the couple's spiritual readiness, and helps lay a firm foundation for a lifelong, faithful, and fruitful married life in Christ.

✠ Peter Paul Saldanha
Bishop of Mangalore

INFORMATION REGARDING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025-2026

We would like to bring to your notice some procedural information before sending the Annual Returns 2025-2026 for review.

1. The internal auditors should give their annual report at the end of the financial year, which should be placed before the Parish

- Finance Council (PFC), after which the accounts are handed over to the Chartered Accountants (CA) for statutory audit.
2. If the CA provides the draft of the audited statements, it shall be placed before the PFC for review and to suggest any corrections or alterations to the financial statements. The observations and recommendations of the PFC shall then be communicated to the CA for necessary action.
 3. The final audited financial statements, along with the audit report of the CA, shall thereafter be placed before the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), the PFC, and the Parish Assembly (PA). In lieu of convening a Parish Assembly meeting, the statements of accounts may also be displayed on the Church notice board for the information of parishioners.
 4. The reports or extracts of the meetings of the PFC, PPC, and PA (or, in the case of display on the Church notice board, a declaration by the Parish Priest), along with all other annexures as specified in the Constitution of the Parish Finance Council (No. 3:12.10, page 51), shall be sent to the Bishop for review of the accounts.
 5. In recent years, the last date for filing the annual accounts with the Income Tax Department has been September 30. As such, the auditors may submit the audited accounts around this date. Therefore, it is not necessary to adhere strictly to the stipulated date of August 15 as mentioned in the Constitution of the PFC.
 6. In cases where Parish Priests have been transferred, even if they have presented only the draft copy of the accounts (not the final audited statements along with the audit report) to the PFC, PPC, and PA, the newly appointed Parish Priest shall place the duly audited accounts before these councils/assembly again and thereafter send the annual returns for review.

- Vicar General

FROM THE PROCURATOR'S OFFICE

- 1) A reminder all Parish Priests to remit all earmarked collections, including those of 1 March 2026, and other dues (D.C.M.F. up to February 2026, Clubbed & Binated Mass stipends, D.C.P., P.A.F.) from the Parish for the year 2025-26 by **10 March 2026**.
- 2) Parish Priests are requested to submit the D.C.M.F. claims/returns up to February 2026 by the **10 March 2026**.
- 3) P.A.F. members are requested to claim their medical bills of Financial Year 2025-26 (up to 28 February 2026) by **10 March 2026**.
- 4) The Parish Priests are requested to reconcile the Mass Account with the Mass Register as on 31 March 2026. The excess or surplus amount in the Mass account including the Bank Interest after deducting the Bank Charges, if any, must be transferred to the Church Account.
- 5) In case there are Binated and Clubbed Mass stipends and surplus Normative Masses in the Parishes, these should be remitted to the Diocese.
- 6) The new financial year 2026-27 has 54 Pro populo Masses (52 Sundays, Feast of the Assumption of Mary and Christmas). The Parish Priests are to follow these steps:
 - a) Draw the amount of Pro populo Mass Stipends and the Legacy Mass stipends from the Church account and credit the same to the Mass Account by cheque. Kindly avoid cash transaction.
 - b) A receipt for the amount has to be passed in the Mass Account for Pro Populo & Legacy Masses in the Mass Account. This receipt will serve as a voucher in the Church account.
 - c) Simultaneously, an entry should be made in the Mass register to assign these Masses. This transaction should be completed in the first week of April 2026.
- 7) The Parishes that have obtained Form 10AD (12AB renewal) are requested to forward a copy of the Form 10AD to the Procurator's email (procuratordom@gmail.com) as soon as it is received.

COMMISSION FOR BIBLE

1. **The Monthly Bible Quiz for March 2026 (Online)** on the Book of II Samuel and Ephesians will be held on **28 March 2026, from 8.30 pm to 9.00 pm**. The online link will be circulated from 01 March 2026.
2. Parish Level Inter Ward Bible Quiz on the Books: Isaiah, John, Galatians & James, from 9.30 to 12.00 on 08 March 2026 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Vittal.
3. **Bible Classes:**
 - a. **A Study and Discussion Session for Priests** will be organised on **05 March 2026**, Thursday, exclusively for Priests on the topic: **Isaiah in the Lenten Readings** from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. at Community Hall, St Sebastian Church, Bendur.
 - b. St John - Bantwal Vicariate - Level Bible Class, Bantwal
Topic: Bible Classes on the Gospel – ಮಾರ್ಕಾ ಪರ್ಮಾಣೆಂ ಸುವಾರ್ತಾ ಏಕ್ ಕಥಾನಕ್
Mark's Gospel as a Story – will be held for the Priests, Religious and Laity of the deanery in Konkani.
Date: 07, 14 March 2026
 Saturdays from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Venue: Church Hall, Bantwal.
 - c. St Joseph Vaz- Mangalore South Vicariate-Level Bible Class, Permannur
Topic: Bible Classes on the Gospel of John – “ತುಮಿ ಸತ್ಮಾನ್ವೆ ಜಾತಿಂ” “So that you may Believe” – will be held for Priests, Religious and Laity of the deanery in Konkani.
Date: 01, 08, 15, 22 March 2026
 Sundays from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.
Venue: Church Premises, Our Lady the Queen of the Universe, Ranipura.

- Rev. Vincent Sequeira
Secretary, Commission for Bible

MANGALA JYOTHI

I. Programmes for March

- 1 : Diocesan Catechism Day and Honouring of the Top Scorers, X Std Catechism Examination, Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi.
- 8 : Liturgical & Lectors Training, Angelore
- 9-11 : Adult Catechesis – Parish Retreat, Kumbbla
- 15 : Deanery Catechism Teachers Evaluation & Training, Puttur
Deanery level Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Training, Puttur
- 21-22 : Adult Catechesis – Parish Retreat, Thottam
- 22 : Liturgical & Lectors Training, Belvai
- 29 : Lectors Training, Indubettu

II. Information:

A) Commission for Faith Formation:

1. Diocesan Level Catechism Day 2026:

We will be celebrating Catechism Day on 01 March 2026 at Pastoral Institute, Bajjodi. On this day we will be honouring the top scorers of the X Std students in the School Catechism Annual Exam. You are cordially invited to the programme.

2. Evaluation and Annual Report of Catechetical Ministry 2025-26 (Parish):

By 31 March 2026, Parish Catechetical Coordinators are requested to submit a comprehensive annual report and ministry evaluation to their respective Deanery Priest Coordinator, whose contact details are available on the Mangala Jyothi website or in the December 2025 Bulletin.

3. Report Submission Reminder (Deanery Priest Coordinators)

Deanery Priest Coordinators are requested to collect parish catechetical activity reports by 31 March 2026 and hold an evaluation meeting with parish coordinators. The finalised reports should then be submitted to Mangala Jyothi via email or post by 10 May 2026.

B) Commission for Liturgy:

- ##### 1. Lenten Reflection and Ministry Review for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
- Parishes or deaneries are requested to organize a Lenten recollection and review of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

You may contact Fr. Sunil George Dsouza (+91 87623 68101) or another priest to lead it.

2. Training for Newly Selected Extraordinary Ministers is scheduled for Sunday, 14 June 2026, at Mangala Jyothi.

III. Books and other items available at the Stall:

1. ಜೆಜು ಸಂಗಿಂ ಲ್ಹಾನ್ ಪಾವ್ಲಾಂ - ಭುರ್ಗ್ಯಾಂಚ್ಯಾ ವರ್ಸಾಕ್ ಖುರ್ಸಾ ವಾಟ್ (ಚಾರ್ ಖುರ್ಸಾ ವಾಟ್ - ತೀನ್ ಕೊಂಕ್ಣಿ, ಏಕ್ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್) ನವೆಂ ಪುಸ್ತಕ್
2. ಭರ್ವಶಾಚ್ಯಾ ಪಯ್ಲಾರ್ ಖುರ್ಸಾವಾಟ್
3. ಭರವಸೆಯ ಪಯಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಲುಬೆ ಹಾದಿ
4. Easter Candles with different sizes and designs
5. All types of Books and Items related to Liturgy

Please Note: The Mangala Jyothi office will be closed on 19 March 2025 on the occasion of the feast of St Joseph.

- Rev. Rohith D'Costa
Director, Mangala Jyothi

BASIC ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES (BECs)

Programmes in March 2026

- 1) 01 Mar 2026 - BEC Training – Miyapadavu
- 2) 01 Mar 2026 - BEC Training – Bondel (Evening)
- 3) 06 Mar 2026 - BEC Training - Bejai
- 4) 15 Mar 2026 - Parish Coordinators' Meeting – Pastoral Institute
- 5) 18 Mar 2026 - BEC Training – Rosario
- 6) 22 Mar 2026 - BEC Training – Sampige
- 7) 22 Mar 2026 - PPC Training - Uppinangady (Evening) (Uppinangady, Kadaba, Kokkada, Nellyady)
- 8) 24 & 25 Mar 2026 - BEC Training - Madikeri (Mysore Diocese)
- 9) 29 Mar 2026 - BEC Training - Bantwal

- Rev. Sunil George D'Souza
Director, BEC

CANARA ORGANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT & PEACE (CODP)

I. Programmes

- 03.03.2026 : Awareness on Global Warming in Talapady
- 09.03.2026 : International Women's Day celebration in Mangalore Town Hall
- 10.03.2026 : Awareness on Women's Rights in Moodbidri
- 11.03.2026 : Bandhavya federation of Catholic NGO's Governing Board Meeting in CODP
- 13.03.2026 : Awareness on Global Warming in Fajir
- 14.03.2026 : Swachtha Abhiyaan in Sheni
- 16.03.2026 : Field Staff evaluation in CODP
- 18.03.2026 : CODP Governing Board Meeting at Bishop's House
- 24.03.2026 : Strengthening of Mahasangha and Okkuta in Bela
- 30.03.2026 : Awareness on Constitutional Rights in Bajpe
- 31.03.2026 : Field & Women Empowerment Program reporting Meeting in CODP

II. Other Information

1. Lenten Campaign 2026

As in the previous years, the Lenten Campaign for 2026 will support 'Local Mission/Charity'. Please remit the amount collected to the CODP, as detailed on *Inter Nos*, February 2026, pages 38-39. Please inform the CODP office as soon as you have sent your contribution via one of the above methods. Convents that have made a payment but have not informed the CODP office are requested to do so as soon as possible in order to receive a payment receipt.

2. Details of the CODP Golden Jubilee Diocesan Housing Programme details on Parish-wise charity given from CODP and Lenten contribution to CODP from Parishes from 2023-2025.

SI No	PARISH	Total Lenten Collection 2023-2025 (INR)	Total Charity Amount towards housing CODP+Mr Michael Dsouza+Other Voluntary donors (INR)
1	Cathedral	110890	—
2	Adyapady	55000	625000
3	Agrar	171000	740000
4	Allipade	120510	650000
5	Ammembal	133140	150000
6	Anegudde	61330	300000
7	Angelore	514050	—
8	Arwa	32800	505000
9	Ashoknagar	56650	—
10	Badyar	125995	955000
11	Bajal	256930	605000
12	Bajjodi	194400	400000
13	Bajpe	295020	400000
14	Bambil	63610	—
15	Bannur	67120	435000
16	Bantwal	243750	625000
17	Bejai	502720	—
18	Bela	116884	1700000
19	Bellore	220400	175000
20	Belthangady	174425	915000
21	Bellare	22900	400000
22	Belvai	155180	250000
23	Bendur	725982	—
24	Bolkunje	104780	400000
25	Bola	72830	565000
26	Bondel	646035	1115000
27	Borimar	101040	190000
28	Bovikana	17090	—
29	Cascia	131840	225000

30	Cordel	1201725	590000
31	Delanthabettu	38220	920000
32	Derebail	338530	200000
33	Eliarpadav	94610	540000
34	Fajir	336280	490000
35	Farla	68180	300000
36	Ferar	167150	—
37	Fermai	86060	—
38	Gantalkatte	85250	190000
39	Gardady	104560	200000
40	Gurpur	235000	—
41	Hosabettu	234720	135000
42	Indubettu	82680	1195000
43	Jeppu	200810	40000
44	Kadaba	51195	235000
45	Karady (Vijayadka)	95211	1060000
46	Kasargod	78970	760000
47	Kateel	191152	350000
48	Katipalla	234228	100000
49	Kayyar	101660	1400000
50	Kelarai	305810	850000
51	Kinnigoly	495014	—
52	Kirem	379335	650000
53	Kokkada	103575	2005000
54	Kollangana	44100	2525000
55	Kommngala	32050	200000
56	Kulur	331790	1100000
57	Kumbla	75530	915000
58	Kuppepadavu	81330	315000
59	Lawrence Nagar Permude	46140	565000
60	Loretto	336256	150000
61	Madanthyar	501765	255000

62	Manela	116105	570000
63	Maniampare	31800	1250000
64	Manjeshwar	90525	2940000
65	Manjotti	82000	400000
66	Mariashram	131855	840000
67	Maril	114255	625000
68	Milagres-Mangalore	258690	_
69	Miyapadav	134275	1255000
70	Mogarnad	243400	1470000
71	Moodbidri- Alangar	198880	1290000
72	Moodbidri- Town	180195	1150000
73	Mudipu	196005	710000
74	Mukka	149410	150000
75	Mulky	214890	550000
76	Nainadu	119599	545000
77	Nala	31870	149000
78	Narampady	146370	475000
79	Naravi	198296	1730000
80	Neermarga	354565	1290000
81	Neerude	196820	25000
82	Nellikar	35570	_
83	Nellyady	32560	1895000
84	Niddodi	156470	_
85	Nidpalli	67056	300000
86	Nirkan	52000	_
87	Nithyadarnagar	202610	1037000
88	Omzoor	286250	905000
89	Pakshikere	144736	175000
90	Paladka	159078	435000
91	Paldane	254680	800000
92	Panir	255000	850000

93	Panja	33500	125000
94	Pavur	13390	1345000
95	Pavoor Uliya**	11230	300000
96	Permannur	300000	2190000
97	Permude	126320	20000
98	Peruvai	85850	325000
99	Pezar	55400	690000
100	Puttur	595080	390000
101	Ranipura	142400	1050000
102	Salethur	85550	650000
103	Sampaje	13060	2175000
104	Sampige	82600	200000
105	Saverapura	78700	—
106	Shamboor	38650	90500
107	Shakthinagar	148710	400000
108	Shirtady	186610	750000
109	Siddakatte	132485	570000
110	Sullia	69550	1360000
111	Surathkal	546096	—
112	Taccode	192215	1400000
113	Thannirbavi	30550	145000
114	Thodambila	129650	300000
115	Thokur	69600	200000
116	Ujire	213461	1310000
117	Ukkinadka	33805	495000
118	Uppinangady	140806	850000
119	Urwa	470281	760000
120	Valencia	984016	1262000
121	Vamadapadavu	132242	170000
122	Vamanjoor	500590	1650000
123	Venur	148720	710000
124	Vittal	244595	1575000
125	Vorkady	166610	2755000
	TOTAL	2,32,91,324	8,13,98,000

Diocesan CODP Golden Jubilee Housing Project:

Details of the CODP Golden Jubilee Diocesan Housing Plan Cost Wise - First Phase 2023-2025 as on 20.02.2026					
*Total applications received 580 out of which 55 applications are rejected					
Completed Houses		Total Estimation of the house (Total cost)	CODP Contribution	Mr Michael's Contribution	Contribution from Beneficiary+ Parish+Donors+ Associations
New House	House repair				
202	127	15,02,00,000	3,15,91,000	5,29,57,000	6,56,52,000

CODP Golden Jubilee Diocesan Housing Plan - Second Phase 2025 onwards			
Stages of the Construction Level of 196 pending applications			
	Almost complete	Half way done	Not yet started
New House	42	47	20
House Repair	3	39	45

- Rev. Vincent Dsouza
Secretary, CODP

GOLDEN BIRTHDAY

Rev. Fr Alfred Vincent Sequeira, Assistant Director, Mangala Jyothi (DBCLC), Shanthi Kiran, Bajjodi, completes 50 years on March 23, 2026.

Happy Golden Birthday! You have been guiding clergy and laity through sacred texts, today we celebrate a sacred text of another kind — your birth certificate, now officially in the gold edition. Your biblical apostolate proves that spreading the Word never goes out of style. May your blessings multiply faster than the loaves and fishes — with plenty left over!

**ST JOSEPH ENGINEERING COLLEGE
(AUTONOMOUS)**

KCET/KRLMPCA/DCET/PGCET ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ 2026

ಸಾಂ ಜುಜೆ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಂತ್ Engineering /MCA /MBA ಶಿಕೊಂಕ್ ಆಸಕ್ತ್ ಆಸ್‌ಲ್ಲ್ಯಾ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಂಕ್, ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಚಿ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಅಶಿ ಆಸಾ:

Details of Exam:

CET (PUC students)	Registration Date: 17-01-2026 To 16-02-2026 Date of Exam: 23-04-2026 & 24-04-2026
KRLMPCA – (PUC students)	Date of Exam: 17-05-2026
DCET (Diploma students)	Date of Exam: 23-05-2026
PGCET (Degree students)	Date of Exam: 14-05-2026

CET/DCET/PGCET – ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಕ್ ನೋಂದಣಿ (Registration) ಕರುಂಕ್ KEA- www.kea.kar.nic.in)

KRLMPCA - ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಕ್ ನೋಂದಣಿ (Registration) ಕರುಂಕ್ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಕ್ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ್ ಕರ್ಚೊ.

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಂನಿ ವೆಳಾರ್ ಹ್ಯಾ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಕ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಪಾವಿತ್ ಕರ್ನ್ ಹಾಚೊ ಫಾಯ್ಡೊ ಜೊಡ್ಲೊ.

- Rev. Wilfred Prakash D'Souza
ದಿರೆಕ್ಟರ್ SJEC

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

Rev. Fr. Manoj Alban Furtado, SFX, appointed as Parish Priest of Nithyadar Church, Salethur, with effect from 15 February 2026.

YEAR OF CHILDREN – 2026

PROPOSED PROGRAMMES

No	Programme	Responsible
1	Production of a Children's Movie	Mangala Jyothi-DBCLC/ Commission for Bible
2	Writing the Konkani Bible by 2,500 Children in One Hour – Creating a World Record	Commission for Bible
3	<i>Jeevan Disha</i> : Family Values Programmes	Family Life Service Centre
4	<i>Prerana</i> : Awareness and Information on Competitive Examinations	Catholic Board of Education
5	“Dress Like a Saint/Biblical Personality” – Photo Competition	Mangala Jyothi-DBCLC
6	“Know a Saint in a Minute” – Creation of Short Videos on 100 Saints and Biblical Personalities by Children	Mangala Jyothi-DBCLC/ Commission for Bible
7	Missionary Children Association	MCA
8	Children's Retreat/Eucharistic Adoration	Parish
9	Sports, Games, and Singing Programmes for Children	Parish
10	Pilgrimage for Children	Parish
11	Celebration of Children's Day	Parish
12	Pro-Life Event	Missionary Families of Christ
13	Session for Parents on the Physical, Mental, and Emotional Well-being of Gen Alpha Children	Parish
14	Sessions on Good Habits and Healthy Food Practices	Parish
15	Debate Programme for Children	Parish
16	Sessions on Awareness of Substance Abuse	Parish
17	Monthi Feast Novena – Special Intentions for Children	Parish

- Committee for the Year of Children

In addition to the proposed programmes stated above, the following ideas may also be undertaken at the parish or vicariate level to celebrate the Year of Children in a more meaningful manner:

- i. **Children's Bible Convention:** A one-day vicariate/parish gathering with praise and worship, Bible quiz, dramatized Gospel stories, child testimonies, action songs, and interactive Scripture sessions, concluding with Eucharistic celebration.

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- ii. **Faith-Based Drama Competition:** Children enact biblical and moral themes through parish-level and vicariate-level stage performances. Script writing workshops, costume preparation may be included.
 - iii. **Young Preachers Day:** Selected children prepare and share short reflections, preach on a Bible passage. A preparatory workshop on Scripture reflection and public speaking may be organized beforehand.
 - iv. **Scripture Memory Challenge:** Children memorize selected Bible verses/passages each month, guided by catechism teachers and parents. The programme concludes with a vicariate-level recitation event and recognition ceremony.
 - v. **Children’s Rosary Congress:** Each parish dedicates one day for continuous Rosary and Marian devotions led entirely by children. Includes Marian hymns, short reflections on mysteries, and a Marian procession.
 - vi. **“Adopt a Saint” Year Project:** Each child selects a saint, studies their life, practices one virtue, and prepares a creative presentation, chart, or skit at year-end. Parish-level exhibitions or “Saint Parade” may be conducted.
 - vii. **Good Manners Campaign:** A parish-wide movement promoting respectful speech, gratitude, punctuality, honesty, and responsibility. Weekly focus themes, pledge cards, and public reminders during catechism may be included.
 - viii. **Digital Discipline Workshop:** Interactive sessions on responsible use of mobile phones, gaming, and social media. Practical guidelines, parent-child discussions, and digital fasting challenges may be introduced.
 - ix. **Gratitude Journal Project:** Children maintain a daily “Thank You, God” diary noting blessings and acts of kindness. Monthly sharing sessions may be organized in catechism classes.
 - x. **Family Prayer Revival:** Encourage families to pray together daily with children leading morning, evening, and meal prayers, preferably spontaneous ones.

- xi. Grandparents Day:** Children honour grandparents through prayer services, storytelling sessions, and cultural performances. Visits to elderly neighbours and parish senior members may be organized to bridge the intergenerational gap.
- xii. Family Talent Evening:** Families perform together in music, drama, Scripture recitation, and presentations on social themes. Parish-level cultural evenings may foster family participation and bonding.
- xiii. Story Writing Competition:** Thematic writing competition, such as “If Jesus Visited My Home Today.” Winning entries may be published in parish bulletins.
- xiv. Little Samaritans Outreach:** Children visit orphanages, old age homes, destitute centres, and special schools with prayer, cultural programmes, and gift distribution. Clean Parish–Clean Village drives and environmental awareness activities may be conducted.
- xv. Charity Piggy Bank Project:** Children save small coins throughout the year for missions or poor children. A special offering day may be organized to collect and dedicate the savings.
- xvi. Kindness Week Campaign:** Each day dedicated to one act of kindness toward parents, teachers, peers, and nature. Children may record their acts of kindness and share experiences in catechism.
- xvii. Year of Children Time Capsule:** Children write hopes, prayers, drawings, and messages for the future Church, which are sealed and stored for opening after ten years. A ceremonial sealing event may be held.
- xviii. Children’s Charter for a Better Church:** Children express expectations and suggestions for the Church through written submissions or presentations. Parish and diocesan leadership review and response with practical steps.
- xix. Cultivation of Good Habits – “52 Weeks, 52 Virtues” Initiative:** Each week one specific virtue or good habit is

introduced during Mass or catechism, such as punctuality, prayerfulness, honesty, or helpfulness. Habit charts, pledge cards, and monthly review sessions may support implementation.

- xx. Junior Parish Council (Children’s Parish Forum):** One or two structured sessions for the Year of Children where selected child representatives meet the Parish Priest and Parish Pastoral Council to share ideas and concerns. Minutes may be recorded, and selected suggestions implemented and reviewed.

Pastoral Note: While organizing programmes for the Year of Children, careful attention should be given to simplicity and spiritual depth. Every initiative should be participatory and joyful, family-oriented, mission-driven, and future-focused, ensuring that children are actively involved and spiritually enriched.

Quality should always be preferred over quantity; a few well-prepared and meaningful programmes will bear greater and lasting fruit than numerous activities conducted without depth or follow-up. The focus should remain on genuine formation and joyful participation rather than mere external success.

Parish priests and organizers have a special responsibility to inspire, guide, and personally motivate parents so that they willingly encourage and send their children for these programmes. Through clear communication, personal invitation, and pastoral encouragement, parents can be helped to see these initiatives not as extra activities, but as valuable opportunities for their children’s faith, character formation, and holistic growth.

When carried out with prayer, collaboration, and mutual trust between parish leadership and families, the Year of Children will become a grace-filled journey benefiting children, parents, and the wider community.

STATEMENT

About ownership and other particulars about Newspaper

‘INTERNOS’

FORM IV (Rule 8)

- | | |
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| 1. Place of Publication | Bishop’s House
Kodialbail
Mangalore - 575 003 |
| 2. Periodicity of its Publication | Monthly |
| 3. Printer’s Name
Nationality
Address | Rev. Fr Lawrence Ronald D’Souza
Indian
The Codialbail Press, Bondel
Mangalore - 575 008 |
| 4. Publisher’s Name
Nationality
Address | Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira
Indian
Bishop’s House
Mangalore - 575 003 |
| 5. Editor’s Name
Nationality
Address | Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira
Indian
Bishop’s House
Mangalore - 575 003 |
| 6. Names and addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or share holders holding more than one percent of the total capital | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 4em; margin-right: 10px;">}</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Most Rev. Dr Aloysius Paul
D’Souza
Bishop of Mangalore</p> </div> </div> |

I, Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: 31-03-2026

(Sd.) Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira
Publisher

R.I.P.

- Mrs Stella Pinto, sister-in-law of Rev. Fr Paul Pinto, Parish Priest, Neermarga, passed away on 23 January 2026. Her Funeral Mass and Burial Rites took place on 24 January 2026 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Kuppepadavu.
 - Mr Joseph Vas (86 years), brother of Rev. Fr Claudy Vas, SAC, Parish Priest, Bovikana, passed away on 7 February 2026. His Funeral Mass and Burial Rites took place on 9 February 2026 at St Anne Church, Kelarai.
 - Mr Thomas Mothas Corda, brother in law of Rev. Fr James D'Souza, Parish Priest, Vamanjoor, passed away on 14 February 2026. His Funeral Mass took place on 16 February 2026 in St Lawrence Church, Thane, and the Burial Rites in Christian Cemetery, Mulund East.
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Printed by Rev. Fr Lawrence Ronald D'Souza
Published by Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira
owned by Most Rev. Dr. Aloysius Paul D'Souza, Bishop of Mangalore
and printed at Codialbail Press, Bondel, Mangalore – 575 008 and published
at Bishop's House, Mangalore – 575 003. Editor : Rev. Fr Henry Sequeira

Annual Subscription Rs. 60/-