



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: LII

NO.11

NOVEMBER 2025



15th NOVEMBER, 2025 IS THE BIRTHDAY OF
HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL POOLA ANTHONY
WE THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS & LAY
FAITHFUL WISH A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY &
GOD'S BLESSINGS.



NIZAMABAD DEANERY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2025



ARCHDIOCESAN SPORTS MEET 2025 – “VIVA LA VIDA”



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

NOVEMBER

2025



Archbishop's Message



The month of November is the eschaton of the Church's Liturgical year. The word 'eschaton' signifies that whenever God begins a work, He does so with a purpose and ends it productively in consummate fulfilment of His Holy purpose. The Liturgical year of Christ's one Holy, Apostolic and Catholic Church solemnly celebrates *two such beginnings* every year. Firstly, She celebrates Her own birth on the Pentecost day as the new and everlasting creation, promised by God through His holy prophets and originating from the exaltation of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ at His Eternal Father's 'right hand' as the Lord, Christ and high priest according to the order of Melchisedek of His new and everlasting covenant. And secondly, She celebrates the birth of Her own children 'from above' and through their baptismal incorporation into Christ 'through water and the Holy Spirit' to join Her own synodal pilgrimage of faith to the judgement seat of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ 'to be judged by Him' so that 'each one will receive what he deserves, according to what he has done, good or bad, in his bodily life (2 Cor 5:10)'. In the month of November of each Liturgical Year, the Church celebrates the Eschatons of the *two* afore-mentioned divine beginnings. The feast of 'All Saints' on November 1st is the Church's solemn celebration of God's '*already realized*' eschaton of all Her children 'born from above' in the course of Her present earthly history. And the solemnity of the Universal kingship of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ on November 23rd is the Church's solemn celebration of God's eschaton of Her own birth in this world as His promised new creation, which remains '*futuristic*' until the day of the Lord's return as the glorious Son of man. On that day 'all the dead in the graves will hear his voice and come out of their graves: those who have done good *will rise and live*, and those who have done evil *will rise and be*

condemned (Jn.5:28-29).’ This closing event of human history constitutes the historical consummation of the covenantal kingship of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ over all mankind: ‘Then the end will come; Christ will overcome all spiritual rulers, authorities, and powers, and hand over the Kingdom to God the Father. For Christ must rule until God defeats all enemies and puts them under his feet. The last enemy to be defeated will be DEATH (1 Cor.15:24-25).’

The Church’s earthly synodal pilgrimage of faith terminates continually at the judgement seat of the Son our Lord Jesus Christ where it gets sorted into three distinct streams of human persons: (1) Those who, after having received baptism, have incurred no stain of sin whatever, and those persons who, having contracted the stain of sin after baptism have been truly penitent and die in God’s love after having been perfectly purified of all their sins by worthy fruits of penance for their sins of commission and omission before their bodily death on earth constitute the first stream. They are received immediately (*mox*) into heaven and ‘clearly see and enjoy’ God Himself, namely the Blessed Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in their one Eternal Godhead, ‘some more perfectly than others, according to the diversity of their merits’. This is the eschaton of the Blessed we celebrate on Nov.1st every year. (2) Those baptized human persons who have died before having satisfied by worthy fruits of penance for their sins of commission and omission constitute the second stream. They are detained in purgatory to be cleansed of all their sins through purgatorial penalties after which they are admitted into the company of the first stream, namely the community of all the Saints who see and enjoy the Blessed Trinity face to face. In purgatory they experience the afflictions of the Devil and his angels in strict proportion to their partial belongingness to them through their venial sins, in accordance with the justice of God. And on the other hand, they experience the consoling mercy of God through ‘the acts of intercession (*suffragia*) of the living faithful on earth, namely the sacrifices of the Mass, prayers, alms and other works of piety which the faithful are wont to do for the other faithful according to the Church’s practice’. The Church commemorates this community of Her faithful departed on Nov.2nd every liturgical year and earnestly serves God’s mercy for them on this day and during the whole month of November. (3) All those who die unrepentant ‘*in actual mortal sin*’ constitute the third stream. These, go down ‘immediately (*mox*) into hell (*in infernum*)’, to justly partake of the punishments of the Devil *forever* in proportion to their sinful and *total* belongingness to them at the moment of their bodily death on earth.

The merciful Father asks everyone of His children in His Church to choose here and now to which of the three streams he or she would want to belong at the judgement of seat of Christ and prepare themselves accordingly and earnestly during their present post-baptismal synodal pilgrimage of faith, hope and charity: ‘If today you hear My voice, harden not your heart’

Solemnities and Feasts

1ST NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS' DAY



Today, the Church joyfully celebrates the Solemnity of All Saints honouring all those who have reached the glory of heaven: the canonized and beatified saints, and the countless others known only to God. This great feast reminds us that holiness is not reserved for a few; it is the universal call of every baptized person a call to live in the grace and love of God.

In the early centuries, the saints venerated by the Church were primarily martyrs - those who bore witness to Christ through the shedding of their blood. Over time, the Church recognized the holiness of many others who lived heroic lives of virtue. Eventually, Pope Gregory III (731–741) dedicated a chapel in St Peter's Basilica to "all saints," and Pope Gregory IV (827–844) extended this celebration to the entire Church, fixing the date as November 1st.

Before that, in Rome, on May 13th, the Church commemorated the dedication of the Basilica of *St. Maria ad Martyres* (St Mary and All Martyrs) formerly the Pantheon, once a temple to the gods of pagan Rome. Pope Boniface IV consecrated it to the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the martyrs, transferring many relics from the catacombs to this sacred space. Later, Pope Gregory VII (1073–1085) transferred the celebration to November 1st, giving it the meaning we now cherish.

A Call to Holiness

This feast is not merely a remembrance it is an invitation. The Church reminds us that we, too, are called to be saints. The *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium, 40)* teaches us:

"All the faithful, whatever their condition or state, are called by the Lord each in his or her own way to that perfect holiness whereby the Father Himself is perfect"

To walk this path, we must follow in the footsteps of Christ, seek the will of the Father in all things, and serve our neighbor with love. Through such a life, the holiness of the People of God grows and bears abundant fruit as seen in the countless saints throughout history.

A Vision of Hope

In the Book of Revelation, St John gives us a glorious vision: "A great multitude which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue, stood before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes and holding palm branches in their hands" (Rev 7:9).

These are the saints in heaven our brothers and sisters who once lived lives like ours. They struggled, prayed, suffered, and persevered in faith. Now they rejoice in God's presence and encourage us to follow the same road that led them home.

The Gospel of the Beatitudes, proclaimed at today's Mass, shows us the very path they took: humility, mercy, purity of heart, and a thirst for righteousness. There is no other road to heaven than the way of the Beatitudes.

The Spirit of the Celebration

The Feast of All Saints should fill us with gratitude and hope. Among the saints in heaven are

likely some of our own family members and friends - holy men and women who quietly lived the Gospel and now share in the eternal joy of God. Their example calls us to live faithfully in our own circumstances.

Practical Ways to Celebrate

Visit a Cemetery: Between November 1st and November 8th, visiting a cemetery and praying for the departed can obtain a plenary indulgence (applicable only to the souls in purgatory). On other days, this same act grants a partial indulgence.

Offer Thanksgiving: After Mass, spend a few moments in prayer thanking God for all the saints especially the countless unnamed and unknown ones who have attained heaven.

Celebrate with Family: Share a festive meal and, if you have children, encourage them to dress as their favorite saints. Teach them about these holy men and women through stories, games, or short skits.

Pray the Litany of the Saints: Chanting or singing the Litany of the Saints can be a beautiful way to honor this day remembering that *"he who sings prays twice."* Consider reading or reflecting on its meaning, as it stands as the model for all litanies of the Church.

2ND NOVEMBER

ALL SOULS' DAY

On All Souls' Day, the Church lovingly remembers and prays for all the faithful departed the "Holy Souls" who have died in God's grace but are still undergoing purification before entering the joy of heaven. While All Saints' Day honours those already in glory, All Souls' Day calls us to intercede for those still being purified in Purgatory.



Meaning and Origin: The commemoration of All Souls began over a thousand years ago. It was first established by St. Odilo of Cluny (998 A.D.) and gradually spread throughout the Church. The day reflects the deep Christian conviction that death does not end our union in Christ, and that our prayers, sacrifices, and love can help the departed.

Catholic Belief: According to Church teaching, after death, every soul goes to one of three states:

1. Heaven – for those perfectly united with God.
2. Hell – for those who freely and definitively reject Him.
3. Purgatory – for those who die in God's friendship but need purification from the effects of sin.

"All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are assured of eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1030*)

The Communion of Saints

All Souls' Day beautifully expresses the unity of the Church Triumphant (in heaven), the Church Militant (on earth), and the Church Suffering (in purgatory) - together forming the Mystical Body of Christ. We pray for the souls in purgatory, while the saints intercede for them and for us.

Praying for the Faithful Departed

Our prayers, sacrifices, and good works can greatly assist the souls in Purgatory. We can offer:

- Masses and Rosaries for the dead.
- Visits to cemeteries between November 1–8, which can gain plenary indulgences for souls in Purgatory.
- Personal sacrifices and mortifications, such as fasting or offering up our sufferings.
- Vocal and mental prayers, like the *Divine Mercy Chaplet*, *Way of the Cross*, or *Litany for the Faithful Departed*.

Visions and Testimonies

Throughout history, saints like St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Brigid of Sweden, and St. Gertrude the Great were given insights into the mystery of Purgatory, reminding us that the souls there deeply long for our prayers and benefit greatly from our intercession.

Hope Beyond Death

Though mysterious, Purgatory is ultimately a place of hope and love, where souls are prepared for perfect union with God. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, it may be best understood as an “existential state of purification,” where the soul is healed by divine love.

On this holy day, we are invited to pray: “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.”

In remembering our departed loved ones, may we deepen our hope in the Resurrection and strengthen our bonds within the Communion of Saints, until we all rejoice together in the presence of God.

23RD NOVEMBER

Christ the King

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King.

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King.

Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* (“In the first”) to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to “thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law” out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.



During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI’s encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. **Jesus Christ “is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind”** (*Quas primas*, 7).

Christ’s kingship is rooted in the Church’s teaching on the Incarnation. Jesus is fully God and fully man. He is both the divine Lord and the man who suffered and died on the Cross. One person of the Trinity unites himself to human nature and reigns over all creation as the Incarnate Son of God. “From this it follows not only that Christ is to be adored by angels and men, but that to him as man angels and men are subject, and must recognize his empire; by reason of the hypostatic union Christ has power over all creatures” (*Quas primas*, 13).

The Church calls us to acknowledge Christ's kingship with our whole lives:

He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, 'as instruments of justice unto God' -Quas primas, 33

Today, religious freedom for many people means that we can believe whatever we want in private, but when we enter the public square or the marketplace, we may not speak of anything that relates to our faith. However, the Church acknowledges the reign of Christ, not only privately, but publicly. **This solemnity encourages us to celebrate and live out our faith in public.** "Thus by sermons preached at meetings and in churches, by public adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed and by solemn processions, men unite in paying homage to Christ, whom God has given them for their King" (*Quas primas*, 26).

For Christians, when our faith is repeatedly marginalized in public life, we can fall into the habit of compartmentalizing our lives. We love Jesus in our private lives, but we shrink from acknowledging the kingship of Christ in social life. When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, we declare to the world and remind ourselves that Jesus is the Lord of the Church and of the entire universe.

Source: Quas primas © 1925, LibreriaEditrice Vaticana, Vatican City State

RECEIPT OF LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Parish/Individual	No. of Masses
28-08-2025	TRIMULGHERRY	550
30-09-2025	DAMMAIGUDA	41
06-10-2025	RAMANTHAPUR	30
08-10-2025	SURARAM	100
11-10-2025	EMJALA	300
13-10-2025	MARIAPURAM- ADIBATLA	6
15-10-2025	SANTHOSHNAGAR	210
15-10-2025	GUNFOUNDRY	100
16-10-2025	MAHENDRA HILLS	250
21-10-2025	LALLAGUDA (SHRINE)	294
21-10-2025	GANDHINAGAR	700
23-10-2025	METTUGUDA	5500
24-10-2025	SECUNDERABAD	1000
28-10-2025	LALLAGUDA (CHURCH)	300
	Total	8831

Archbishop's Engagements

N.B.: "In office days", Please call the Secretary before coming. Ph No : 72079 40883

NOVEMBER 2025

02. Sun 03.30 p.m. : All Soul's Day Mass at Mettuguda Cemetery
05.30 p.m. : All Soul's Day Mass at Bhoiguda Cemetery
- 03-04 Mon- Tue : In Office
- 06 -07 Thu - Fri : In Office
08. Sat 10.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at
St Francis Xavier, Church, Borabanda
09. Sun 08.15 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at
Holy Family Church, Trimulgherry
11.15 a.m. : Annual Feast Mass at Our Lady of Grace Shrine,
Aliabad.
10. Mon 11.00 a.m. : Meeting with Dharmik Jan Morcha Forum
06.00 p.m. : Holy Mass at Little Flower Junior College, Uppal
12. Wed : Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Fr Jose Changanasshery,
Kerala
14. Fri : In Office
16. Sun 09. 00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at
St John Maria Vianney Church, Bhoiguda
05.00 p.m. : Festive Mass at St. Cecilia's Church, Dayanand
Nagar
- 17-21. Mon-Fri : Diocese of Port Blair
22. Sat 10.30 a.m. : 50 Years Jubilee of Mary Mediatrix Congregation
Presence, at Provincial House, L.B. Nagar
03.30 p.m. : Valedictory Ceremony of HAES XIV Talent and
Proficiency Competitions at Ave Maria School
(CBSE), Ramanthapur
23. Sun 08.00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at
St Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry

10.00 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmations at Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, Khairathabad

04.00 p.m. : CLASS Awards, Secunderabad

24-25. Mon-Tue : In Office

26. Wed : Fr. T. Jerome's Annual Celebrations with Special Needs Children & Elders, 32nd year, Jeevadhara, Warangal

27-30. Thu- Sun : Asian Mission Congress, Malaysia

TENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS: DECEMBER 2025

01-03. Mon – Wed : The Chosen: Asian Vision Summit 2025, Malaysia

06. Sat 09.00 a.m.– : Telangana Education General Body Meeting,
05.00 p.m. St John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur

07. Sun 09.30 a.m. : First Holy Communion and Confirmation at St Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad.
05.00 p.m. : Christmas Celebrations- Healing Hands (Specially Abled), at St Mary's High School, Secunderabad.

08. Mon 06.00 p.m : Festive Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bandlines

10. Wed 05.30 p.m. : Annual Day of St. Mary's High School, Sec-bad

11. Thu 09.30 a.m. : Christmas Recollection and Get-Together at Archbishop's House, Sec-bad.

12. Fri 04.30 p.m. : Annual Day of St. Philomena's High School, Bhoiguda

13. Sat 10.30 a.m. : Mill Hill – 150 years Closing Celebration and Inauguration of St Joseph's Shrine, Ramanthapur
05.30 p.m. : CRI Christmas Get-together, Begumpet

14. Sun 08.30 a.m. : Festive Mass, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, at Immaculate Conception Church, Kutakpally

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| 17. | Wed | 10.30 a.m. | : First Holy Communion & Confirmation, Presbytery Blessing and Inauguration at St. Joseph's Church, Alirajpet |
| 18. | Thu | 09.30 a.m. | : Inaugural Ceremony – Science Exhibition, Annual Day, Sacred Heart School, Lallaguda |
| 24. | Wed | 11.00 p.m. | : Christmas Vigil Mass at St. Mary's Basilica, Secunderabad |
| 25. | Thu | 09.15 a.m. | : Christmas Day Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry |
| 27. | Sat | | : Mary Mediatrix Sisters- Jubilee, Holy Mass at Karunapuram, Warangal |
| 28. | Sun | | : Closing of Jubilee Year 2025 at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry |
| 31. | Wed | 11.30 p.m. | : New Year Midnight Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry |

31st October, 2025
Archbishop's House

✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

POPE'S INTENTION: NOVEMBER 2025

For the prevention of suicide: Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community and be open to the beauty of life.



CARDINAL'S INTENTION: NOVEMBER 2025

Let us pray that all people may respect one another and uphold the dignity of every person, never using others as objects for selfish gain. May we overcome the "use and throw" mentality and learn to **value one another as children of God**, created in His image and worthy of love and respect.



Communications

1. HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS HELD AT ST. JOHN'S REGIONAL SEMINARY:

Dear Bishops, Rev. Fathers, Religious and Faithful of Hyderabad Ecclesiastical Province,

With hearts filled with joy and gratitude to God, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all who contributed to the grace-filled and memorable Jubilee Celebrations held on 21st and 22nd October 2025 at St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur.

The two days of celebration were a true manifestation of ecclesial communion and thanksgiving for the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on all of us over the past decades. The joyful participation of so many bishops, priests, religious and the faithful made these celebrations a profound experience of unity and faith.

I extend my special thanks to: The Core Committee who planned and executed the programmes; The distinguished speakers who enlightened us with their reflections and insights; The generous donors and benefactors whose support made the celebrations possible; The Rector, staff and seminarians of St. John's Regional Seminary for their dedication, hard work and warm hospitality; The various organizing committees, volunteers and everyone who planned and executed every detail with care and commitment.

Your collective efforts ensured that the Jubilee was not only well-organized but spiritually uplifting and truly worthy of thanksgiving to God. As we thank God for His abundant blessings over the past decades, we continue to entrust the mission of the Church to the intercession of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, praying that the Lord may continue to lead and guide us. God Bless you all.

2. MASSES ON ALL SOULS' DAY (02 NOVEMBER) AND INDULGENCES IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

A. Celebration of Masses on All Souls' Day, All Souls Day Liturgy Proper:

Every priest is permitted to celebrate three Masses on *All Souls' Day* (2nd November), accepting a stipend only for one Mass.

- First Mass: May be offered for any intention, and a stipend may be accepted for this Mass.
- Second Mass: Must be offered for all the faithful departed.
- Third Mass: Must be offered for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

B. Plenary Indulgence (applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory)

- A Plenary Indulgence is granted to any of the faithful who, on one of the days from 1st to 8th November, devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the deceased.
- A Plenary Indulgence may also be gained by visiting a church or chapel with devotion on All Souls' Day (or, with the permission of the Ordinary, on the preceding or following Sunday, or on All Saints' Day), and there reciting the "Our Father" and the "Creed."

C. Partial Indulgence (applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory)

A Partial Indulgence is granted to any of the faithful who:

- Devoutly visit a cemetery or pray mentally for the deceased; or
- Devoutly recite Lauds or Vespers of the *Office of the Dead*, or the invocation: *"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord." And let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord.*

3. DEANERY LEVEL MONTHLY RECOLLECTION:

All the Deans are here-by requested to conduct the Monthly Recollection at Deanery level in the month of November, 2025. All the clergy are requested to attend the "Deanery Level Recollection" and if anyone is unable to attend the recollection, please inform the respective Deans. All the Deans are here-by requested to note down the minutes of the meetings with the list of the participants and send a copy of the same to the Archbishop's House, Secunderabad.

4. THE CHRISTMAS RECOLLECTION AND GET-TOGETHER ON 11th DECEMBER, 2025:

Archdiocesan level Recollection for all the Pastoral Clergy and the Christmas Get-together for the Archdiocesan Clergy is arranged at Archbishop's House on 11th December, 2025 from 9:30 am to 1 pm and from 3 pm to 9 pm respectively.

5. Congratulations to the Newly Ordained Deacons

We extend their heartfelt congratulations to Rev. Dn. Madanu Manoj Kumar, Rev. Dn. Kasu Akhil, and Rev. Dn. Aduri Fathima Dwijesh, who were ordained as deacons for the Archdiocese of Hyderabad on 28th October 2025 by Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Raja Rao Thelegathoti, S.M.M., Bishop of Vijayawada in St John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad. May the Lord, who has called them to serve, bless them abundantly and strengthen them in their diaconate ministry, that they may serve the Church with joy, humility, and fidelity.

With Regards and Prayers
✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

CHANCERY NOTICE

1. THE INTERIM AUDIT OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD SOCIETY:

Please follow the guidelines and Instructions from the Auditors, sent through Email and WhatsApp.

2. MISSION SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS 2025:

The Parish Priests/ Priests In-Charge/ Heads of the Institutions are requested to forward the contributions to the Procurator's office, Archbishop's House, Secunderabad, as early as possible, which will be forwarded as per the instructions of National Office. The religious Houses, convents, institutions can handover cheques directly at Archbishop's House and obtain the receipt

3. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

All Parish Priests and Heads of the Institutions, who have not yet paid the special collections and Second Sunday Collections, are requested to pay as soon as possible. Please clear all dues till October, 2025. Please contact Procurator's office for details of your parish/institute dues.

4. ORDO:

ORDO 2025-2026 for the Archdiocese of Hyderabad will be released on 15th November, 2025 on the Birthday of the Archbishop. You may buy the copies after the release from Archbishop's house office at the cost of Rs. 50.

5. VISITORS TO ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE:

Kindly Note:

1. Do not bring any sort of eatables, not even Cakes.
2. Do not bring flower/bouquet, Shawls, show case decorative items, wooden/ glass or any other mementos.
3. You may give Bibles, Bible Diaries or Spiritual Books that Archbishop can give to others.
4. You may give Cheques for Education Fund to help the poor. (You will be given a receipt)

Note from Divyavani Social Communications

A feature named "**The Face of the Faceless**" - a real story of Sr. Rani Maria FCC on screen. Blessed Rani Maria was murdered near Indore, a tribal area. She shed

her blood for the cause of the Tribals. This film will be screened in 40 theatres across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana from the 21st of November 2025. Each theatre will screen 4 shows for that week. We invite all the parish priests and the principals of the schools to encourage the Christians as well as non-Christians to watch this beautiful film with their families and friends.

Divyavani Social Communications, which is run by the TCBC, is the distributor of the film in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.



A Support to every Parish Priest

The Family of Faith has commenced instructing candidates for the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**, which is gradually taking root in several of our parishes that have been encouraging adults desiring Baptism and the other Sacraments of initiation. This program is designed to assist Parish Priests by providing qualified instructors who can accompany candidates preparing for Baptism, thus lightening the pastoral responsibility of individualized instruction. We had three candidates baptised through long term course and presently we have four candidates currently undergoing instructions in short term course.

To strengthen this beautiful journey, *The Family of Faith* offers a well-structured **RCIA Syllabus** for all parishes of the Archdiocese, with a team of qualified instructors who stand ready to assist Parish Priests in guiding these candidates, thereby easing the priests' instructional responsibilities.

Special attention is given to adults who approach the Church, often in the context of preparing for marriage where one party is not Catholic. For such situations, as well as for any adult inquirers, the Family of Faith makes available both **online and in-person sessions**, conducted by trained members of our team. The program is flexible, offering both **long-term course** (one year and once a week class) **and short-term courses** (four months twice a week classes), and is open not only to adults but also to young people above the age of 15.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) remains a vital process for forming, guiding, and strengthening those preparing to enter the Catholic faith.

Our syllabus is both Scripture-based (with a strong emphasis on the Gospel of St Luke) and catechistically rich, covering the Creed, Sacraments, Commandments, Prayer, Church history, and Christian living.

The structure of the program allows participants to encounter Christ personally through the Word of God, deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith, and prepare spiritually and practically for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. It also emphasizes post-baptismal accompaniment, ensuring that neophytes are fully integrated into parish life.

The Archdiocese's encouragement to adopt this program at the parish level will not only bring uniformity and clarity in formation for the RCIA, but also enrich the catechetical mission of the Archdiocese. The structured program is as below:

RCIA Syllabus

Topic Heading / Lessons	Sessions
- Welcome and Introduction - Jesus prepares for His Mission (Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-13) - Jesus, Unique Teacher (Luke 4:14-41) - The catch of Fish (Luke 5:1-11, 6:12-16) - First Conflicts with the Pharisees (Luke 5:17-26, 6:6-11) - The Beatitudes: The Heart of Jesus' preaching (Luke 6:12-49, 7:36-50) - Breaking Barriers to Communion (Lue 8:22-25) - Take up your Cross (Luke 9:18-24, 28-26) - At Jerico on the Way to Jerusalem (Luke 19:1-10) - Jesus enters the Holy City of Jerusalem (Luke 19:28-40)	Sessions 1 and 2 (Contact sessions based on Luke's Gospel)
- Merchants chased from the Temple (Luke 19:45-46) - Jesus washes the feet of His disciples (Luke 22:26-27, John 13:4-20) - The Last Supper / The Agony / Jesus before the Sanhedrin and Pilate the Way of the Cross / The Resurrection of Jesus (Luke 22)	Include a visit to Church, if possible.
Prayer, A Covenant Relationship	Session 3

Topic Heading / Lessons		Sessions
• Forms of Prayer		
• Devotions		Session 4
• The Lord's Prayer		
• I Believe in God, the Father Almighty		Session 5
• I Believe in Jesus Christ		Session 6
• I Believe in the Holy Spirit		Session 7
• I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church		Session 8
• The Sacraments of Initiation		Session 9
• The Sacraments of Healing		Session 10
• The Sacraments at the Service of Communion		Session 11
• The Liturgical Year		Session 12
• Law and Grace - Introduction to the Decalogue		
• Love God with all your Heart 1,2,3 Commandments		
• Respect for Family and Life: 4,5,6 Commandments		Session 13
• Righteousness of Mind and Heart 7,8,9,10 Commandments		
• Virtues - Theological/Cardinal		Session 14
• Four Last Things, Purgatory		
• Mary and the Saints		Session 15
• Church History		Session 16
Practical preparation for Baptism/Confirmation/ Holy Communion		
Post Baptism Meeting, accompanying and reflection		
Preparation for the First Confession and Confession		Session 17

Fr. Raju Alex A.E.
Convenor Family of Faith



17th October 2025

Dear Fathers/Brothers/Sisters,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we journey together through the Jubilee Year, marked by the theme **"Pilgrims of Hope"**, our Holy Father invites us to discern anew the sacred vocation of families in the life and mission of the Church. In a world of many challenges to the unity and wellbeing of family life, this Jubilee offers a privileged opportunity to celebrate, affirm, and renew our commitment to families—the domestic church and living icon of God's love.

Therefore, I ask that each parish in our Archdiocese dedicate one Sunday, preferably on Sunday **16th November 2025**, as a special **"Sunday of Families"**. On this day, I encourage you to:

- Highlight the indispensable role of Christian families during the homily, offering practical ways for families to be witnesses of faith, hope, and love in their homes and communities.
- Include prayers and intercessions focused on family life, unity between generations, and those experiencing difficulty or separation.
- Invite families to come forward for a special blessing during Mass.
- Where possible, involve children, parents, and elders in liturgical roles such as readings, prayers of the faithful, or offertory procession.
- **Opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation**, especially encouraging spouses and parents to renew their spiritual life.
- After Mass, consider hosting a parish gathering—a simple meal, family games, or shared testimonies—fostering community bonds and mutual support among parish families.

The Family Apostolate Office is ready to assist parishes with resources such as liturgical guidelines, prayer materials, and suggestions for organizing the celebration

Let this Jubilee Sunday become both a remembrance and a recommitment to the beauty of family life, entrusted to us by Christ and the Church. It also offers a beautiful opportunity to highlight the indispensable role of families in building vibrant parish communities and nurturing vocations, compassion, and faith in future generations.

Thank you for your dedication to pastoral ministry and for strengthening the family as the heart of our faith community.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad



2nd Sunday Collection for the month of September 2025

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1	27-10-2025	Aliabad	600	53		Madinaguda	
2	23-10-2025	Alirajpet	550	54	25-09-2025	Mallapur	969
3		Ammuguda		55		Manikonda Mission	
4		Arogya Nagar (Mission)		56	15-09-2025	Mariapuram (Adibatla)	1000
5		Arul Colony		57		Medchal	
6		Balaji Nagar		58	18-09-2025	Medipally	2300
7	18-09-2025	Balaiah Nagar (Old Alwal)	12050	59		Mettuguda	
8		Band Lines		60		Miyapur	
9	16-09-2025	Bandlaguda Jagir (Kismatpur)	42128	61		Moul-Ali	
10	06-10-2025	Banjara Hills	10800	62		Mudfort	
11		Basuregadi		63		Muthangi	
12		Bayyaram		64		Nacharam	
13		Bazar Ghat		65		Nandrakal	
14		BHEL - MIG		66		Narayankhed	
15	17-09-2025	Begumpet	6610	67		Nedunoor	
17		Bodhan		68		Neela Camp	
18		Boduppall		69	15-09-2025	Nizamabad	2400
19	22-10-2025	Bhoiguda	10000	70		Pargi	
20	15-09-2025	Bolarum	9220	71		Patancheru	
21		Borabanda		72		Ramachandrapuram	
22		Bowenpally		73	12-09-2025	Ramanthapur	3200
23		Cherkapally		74		Ramnagar	
24		Chintalacheruvu		75		Sadasivpet	
25	13-10-2025	Church Colony	3000	76		Sainikpuri	
26	27-09-2025	Dammaiguda	11200	77	28-10-2025	Sanathnagar	19250
27		Dharmaram		78		Sangareddy	
28		Dayanandnagar		79	15-10-2025	Santhoshnagar	2000
29	11-10-2025	Emjala	20000	80		Sappers Lines	
30	19-09-2025	Gaddiannaram	3386	81	26-09-2025	Secunderabad	50000
31		Gagillapuram		82		Shabad	
32		Gajwel		83	14-10-2025	Shamshabad	2500
33	21-10-2025	Gandhinagar	3000	84	18-09-2025	Shanthinagar	2136
34	22-09-2025	Garrison (Trimulgherry)	1535	85		Shapurnagar	
35	18-09-2025	Ghatkesar	800	86		Siddipet	
36		Golconda		87		Seethaphalmandi	
37	16-09-2025	Gothumakunda	1000	88	16-09-2025	Sultan Bazar	5000
38	15-10-2025	Gunfoundry	13000	89	08-10-2025	Suraram	3000
39	18-09-2025	Jadi Jamalpur	200	90		Tandur	
40	16-10-2025	Jagadgirikutta	3500	91		Toopran	
41		Jahanuma		92	26-09-2025	Trimulgherry	32500
42		Jogipet		93		Uminthal	
43		Joipet		94		Vanasthalipuram	
44		Kalwakole		95	18-09-2025	Venkatapuram	4000
45		Kamareddy		96		Vikarabad	
46		Khairatabad		97	15-09-2025	Yapral	5000
47		KissanNagar(Armoor)		98	22-10-2025	Yeddumyaram	400
48		Kukatpally		99		Yellareddy	
49	07-10-2025	Lallaguda	15000	100	16-09-2025	Zaheerabad	900
50	11-09-2025	L. B. Nagar	2000			Total	308484
51		Lillipur					
52	16-10-2025	Mahendra Hills	2350				

Pastoral News

1. First Holy Communion and Confirmation at Holy Trinity Church, Begumpet



2. Festive Mass, First Holy Communion and Confirmation at Auxilium Church, Mahendra Hills



3. Divine Healing Convention 2025

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad, under the guidance and blessings of His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, organized a three-day Divine Healing Convention from 3rd to 5th October 2025 at St Mary's School Grounds, Secunderabad, marking the Silver Jubilee of Divine Light Ministries.

In collaboration with the Pastoral Centre of Hyderabad and the Catholic

Charismatic Renewal (CCR), the convention was led by Rev. Fr. Anthony Parankimalil VC (Potta Group), Director of Divine Retreat Centre, Kigali, and Rev. Fr. Cyril Doss SVD, Director of Divine Word Centre, Muthangi.

The theme of the convention was “Behold, I make all things new... I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert” (Isaiah 43:19). Each day featured Holy Mass, Praise and Worship, the Rosary, and the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Cardinal Poola Anthony presided over the Pontifical High Mass on the second day, with Msgr. Rev. Fr. Balashowry Reddy and Rev. Fr. Cyril Doss as celebrants on other days.



Over 7,000–8,000 faithful attended from across India and abroad, with around 70,000 online viewers through Liturgy TV and Catholic Hub TV. Many shared testimonies of healing, renewal, and spiritual growth.

We thank His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Msgr. Rev. Fr. Balashowry Reddy, Rev. Fr. Pasala Innaiah, Rev. Fr. Prabhudas, and all priests and volunteers for their

support and prayers.

All glory to God for the blessings received through this Spirit-filled convention!

4. Golden Jubilee of Salesian Presence in Telangana, Archdiocese of Hyderabad

Parish Annual Feast of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus - The Great Jubilee 2025. Pilgrims of Hope.



Archdiocesan News

1. Deanery Level Jubilee 2025 Seminar and Get-Together – Gajwel Deanery

The Gajwel Deanery joyfully celebrated the Jubilee Year with a Deanery-level Seminar and Get-together on 19th October 2025, bringing together 54 Religious Fathers, Sisters, and Parish Priests for a day of faith, fellowship, and renewal.



The event began with a prayer service, followed by a seminar led by Rev. Fr. Sagayaraj, Principal of St. Joseph's Degree & PG College, on the theme *"Pilgrims of Hope, Forgiveness, and Acceptance."* His inspiring message invited all to embrace unity, mercy, and renewed missionary zeal.



The gathering was graced by Rev. Fr. Boban Kollappalli, Superior General of the Missionaries of Compassion, whose presence added joy and encouragement. The day also featured a Bible Quiz conducted by Fr. Babu Rajendra MC, lively games, and a fellowship meal that strengthened bonds of fraternity.

In his concluding remarks, Fr. Thonta Prabhudas, Dean of Gajwel Deanery, thanked all participants for their cooperation and joyful spirit. The celebration truly reflected the Jubilee theme - *a journey of communion, renewal, and hope in the service of God and His people.*

- Fr. Thonta Prabhudas, Dean of Gajwel Deanery

2. Report of the National Intercessory Day celebrated by the CCR Hyderabad on Thursday 2 October 2025.

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad CCR celebrated the National Intercessory Day on Thursday 2 October 2025, at the Saint Mary's Basilica Adoration Chapel from



2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. All the participants prepared in advance with prayer and fasting. We had spirited Praise and Worship, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration and Intercession as some parishioners also joined the members of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and made the day a blessed and Grace-filled one.

On this day the CCR also commemorated the ninth anniversary of the Bleeding Eucharist, which is placed in the same Chapel. The prayer in the Chapel was followed by Eucharistic Procession in the Church premises, in which the Parish priest, assistant Parish priests and many others participated. After the procession we had a fellowship with tea and snacks.

The whole programme was planned, led and executed by the CCR members Babu Anthony, Lawrence, Christopher, Rosey, Napoleon and others along with Fr. Prabhudas the Spiritual Advisor to the CCR in Hyderabad and the Secretary to the CCR in the state of Telangana.

3. Nizamabad Deanery level - Jubilee Year 2025 – “Pilgrims of Hope”

The celebration of the Jubilee Year 2025 – “Pilgrims of Hope” was solemnly concluded at the Nizamabad Deanery level on 26th October 2025 at Nirmala Hruday High School, Nizamabad. The solemn Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Rev. Msgr. Balashowreddy Yeruva, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. The event brought together around 1,200 faithful, including priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay faithful from all the parishes of the Deanery: St Ann’s Church, Nizamabad; Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Dharmaram; St Mathias Church, Jojipet; St Joseph’s Church, Jadi Jamalpur; St Peter’s Church, Bodhan; Maria Rani Church, Neela Camp; St Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Kissannagar; Nishkalanka Matha Church, Arogyanagar; Sacred Heart Church, Kamareddy; and St Francis of Assisi Church, Yellareddy.

We all came together as one family in Christ to recite the Holy Rosary and to spend a grace-filled hour in Eucharistic Adoration, offering thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The entire celebration was deeply spiritual, joyful, and enriching, strengthening our faith and unity as pilgrims of hope. We extend our sincere thanks to all the parish priests, religious sisters, and the people of God for their active participation and wholehearted cooperation.

A word of special gratitude goes to Pope Francis for announcing the Jubilee Year 2025, calling the entire Church to journey together in hope and renewal. We also remember Pope Leo XIV for his encouragement and spiritual guidance during this holy celebration. Truly, it was a blessed and memorable event for our Deanery. May this Jubilee inspire us all to live our Christian faith with deeper conviction, renewed hope, and greater love.

- Rev. Fr. Madanu Joseph Jr (Dean, Nizamabad Deanery)

4. Archdiocesan Sports Meet 2025 – “Viva La Vida”

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad witnessed an energetic and faith-filled celebration as the Archdiocesan Sports Meet 2025 – “Viva La Vida” (a Spanish phrase meaning “Long Live Life”) was successfully conducted on the 25th and 26th of October at Don Bosco Navajeevan, Ramanthapur. The event was hosted by Our Lady of Fatima Church, Dammaiguda, and organized by the Youth Commission of Hyderabad Archdiocese.

The grand sporting event brought together youth from nearly 50 parishes across the Archdiocese, fostering unity, teamwork, and joyful competition. Parish youth leaders and representatives assembled a day prior to the event for the match draws and coordination. The Sports Meet commenced with the Holy Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis (Archdiocesan Youth Director) and concelebrated by Rev. Fr. Viji Joseph. Following the Mass, Rev. Fr. Jerome officially declared the sports meet open, inspiring the youth to compete in the true spirit of sportsmanship and fellowship.

The two-day event featured an impressive lineup of team sports including Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Tug of War, Kho-Kho, and Throwball, as well as individual events such as Badminton (singles & doubles), Chess, Carroms, Running Race (100m), Relay (400m), Shot Put, Discus Throw, Javelin Throw, High Jump, and Long Jump.

Throughout the event, the grounds of Don Bosco Navajeevan echoed with cheers, laughter, and enthusiasm as youth from different parishes encouraged one another, embodying the spirit of togetherness and Christian camaraderie. The closing ceremony held at Christ the king Church, Ramanthapur was graced by the Guest of Honour, Mr. Norman Issac, former FIBA World Cup member, who inspired the participants with his words and presented the awards to the winners. The Overall Championship Trophy was jointly secured by St John Maria Vianney Church, Bhoiguda and St Anthony's Church, Mudfort, with Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Bowenpally finishing as runners-up.

The event concluded with heartfelt gratitude to the youth of Our Lady of Fatima Church, Dammaiguda, for their dedication and excellent organization. Mr. Clement, the Parish Youth President, officially declared the Archdiocesan Sports Meet 2025 closed, marking the end of a successful and joy-filled celebration of life, unity, and faith through sports.

5. A Conference with members of the Dharmik Jan Morcha

On 28th October 2025, members of the Dharmik Jan Morcha from various Islamic organizations met with His Eminence Anthony Cardinal Poola and expressed their commitment to work for communal peace and to stand united against anti-social elements.

Furthermore, on 10th November 2025, a conference has been organized in collaboration with all Churches to promote dialogue and harmony among different faith communities.

6. Hyderabad Young Clergy: Ongoing formation cum Retreat at Don Bosco Mount, Kotagiri, Niligris District from 06th October 2025 to 10th October 2025



7. Newly Ordained Deacons

Rev. Dn. Madanu Manoj Kumar,
Rev. Dn. Kasu Akhil,
Rev. Dn. Aduri Fathima Dwijesh



Regional News

1. Hyderabad Ecclesiastical Province Jubilee Regional Celebration 2025

The Jubilee Celebrations at St John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad, began with great enthusiasm under the theme "Hope Will Never Disappoint Us." Nearly 1,600 faithful including bishops, priests, religious, seminarians, and lay representatives from the six dioceses of Telangana Province gathered to mark this grace-filled event announced by Pope Francis.

The celebration began with a solemn Eucharistic Mass presided over by Cardinal Poola, joined by bishops from across the province, including Most Rev. Sagili Prakash (Khammam), Most Rev. Karanam Dhaman Kumar (Nalgonda), Most Rev. Saginala Paul Prakash (Kadapa), Most Rev. Gorantla Johannes, OCD (Kurnool), Most Rev. Polimera Jaya Rao (Eluru), Most Rev. Pili Anthony (Nellore), and Fr. Vijay Paul Reddy, Administrator of Warangal, along with more than 150 priests.

A ballet composed by Fr Dusi Ravi Shekhar SJ on Jubilee 2025 and presented by "Spark Team" The day opened with a heartfelt welcome from Fr. K. Marreddy, Rector of the Seminary, who set a tone of fraternity and



openness. Fr. Anakarla Prasanth led the first session with a reflection on the Jubilee Logo, explaining its symbolism of mercy, unity, and pilgrimage of hope.

The ceremonial lamp was lit by Cardinal Poola Anthony, Bishops Jaya Rao Polimera, and Gorantla Johannes, along with other bishops, lay representatives, signifying Christ's light guiding the Church through the Jubilee Year.

Bishop Gorantla Johannes delivered an inspiring keynote address on the theme Biblical Roots for a Synodal Church, and Objectives of the Regional Jubilee - 2025 Convention, emphasizing that synodality is not a new idea but one deeply rooted in Sacred Scripture. Reflecting on the challenges of the modern world - marked by wars, divisions, and hopelessness - he explained that Pope Francis, guided by the Holy Spirit, initiated the Jubilee Year to renew faith, life, and hope. Addressing the Telugu-speaking faithful from both Telangana and Visakhapatnam provinces, Bishop Johannes reminded everyone that the Jubilee gathering was not only for celebration but also for reflection, dialogue, and participation, allowing every voice to be heard in the spirit of synodality. Quoting Pope Francis, he affirmed that the Church is called to "walk together as one pilgrim people," where the faithful, through pastoral councils, share their insights and experiences to enrich the Church's mission. Drawing from the story of Moses and Jethro in the Book of Numbers, he illustrated how God Himself instituted shared leadership by appointing seventy elders to assist Moses, highlighting that the Church today likewise needs collaborative leadership and active participation from all the faithful to build a vibrant, united community of believers.

Rev. Fr. Valle Vijaya Joji Babu, St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad reflected on the Hopes and Dreams of the Church, calling for renewal of faith and commitment to synodality walking together in communion and mission.

In a special talk, Fr. Kondaveeti Anthaiah, TCBC commission for Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue spoke on "The Church in India – Challenges and Opportunities." He described the Jubilee as a time of liberation and renewal, urging the faithful to strengthen social harmony, religious freedom, and unity amidst challenges like secularism, inequality, and environmental degradation. He called the Jubilee a moment to lay a golden foundation for the future of the Indian Church.

Fr. Badugu Samson Diocese of Kadapa highlighted Our Telugu Church – its Present State; its Hopes and Dreams, stressing education, inclusivity, and the rejection of social divisions.

A session on Parish Administration, moderated by Msgr. Duggimpudi Vijayapaul Reddy, Administrator, Warangal Diocese, saw Fr. Adagatla Joseph Diocese of Nalgonda Spoke on Renewal in the Organisation of Parishes through Basic Ecclesial

Communities, emphasizing the family as the first Church and the role of Basic Ecclesial Communities in faith formation. Fr. Mallavarapu Sundar, Archdiocese of Hyderabad underlined transparency and collaboration in pastoral and financial matters, in a topic assigned to him “Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Committees” while Fr. Surepalli Issac, Diocese of Khammam spoke on “Developing Self-reliant Communities and Parishes” called for self-reliant, participatory parishes, warning that “a Church with only spectators is a dead Church.”

The first day concluded with practical resolutions - promoting education, financial transparency, tithing, and adopting poor villages. The day radiated an atmosphere of faith, hope, and unity, inviting all to walk together in the light of Christ.

Second Day:

The Jubilee celebrations featured a series of insightful talks focusing on the evolving role of women and youth in the Church, the use of digital media in pastoral ministry, and the need for scriptural and liturgical renewal. Each speaker highlighted important challenges and opportunities, calling for greater awareness, participation, and transformation within the Church community.

Place and Role of Women in the Church

Mrs. Puligujju Mary, Diocese of Kurnool emphasized that women, whether as nuns or family members, are central to the growth of the Church. Nuns, through their congregational service, and laywomen, through family and social engagement, both contribute significantly to the Church’s mission. She stressed the importance of empowering women to take on leadership roles in parish life and Church councils, citing biblical examples such as Deborah, Esther, and Mary Magdalene, along with modern women who have dedicated their lives to service. Mrs. Mary called for a transformation of mindset, encouraging the Church to embrace Galatians 3:28 affirming equality in dignity and calling.

Place and Role of Youth in the Synodal Church

Mr. Bichapogu Ravi, President, AP Wing of All Indian Catholic Union addressed the role of youth using the three C’s of the Synod: Convocation, Consultation, and Conversion. He acknowledged the complex challenges young people face in today’s world - caught between digital distractions and real-world struggles - but also highlighted their potential as leaders of faith and change. Drawing from Scripture and global youth movements, he emphasized the need to accompany youth with compassion and guidance, reminding the Church that neglecting them is equivalent to neglecting its own future.

Use of Digital Media in the Pastoral Ministry

Mr. Srujan Segev, stressed that digital media, when used responsibly, can become a powerful tool for evangelization. Just as the Apostles spread the Gospel at Pentecost, today's faithful can use platforms like WhatsApp, YouTube, and Facebook to share Christian messages. He proposed developing digital Catholic resources, including apps and diocesan channels, while warning against misinformation, unverified groups, and online distractions. His message was clear: digital media is a gift - but one that must be used with discipline, creativity, and a sense of mission. This session was Moderated by Rev Father Yeruva Joji Reddy SDB Province Youth Director

Biblical Knowledge – Importance and Ways and Means to Inculcate

Most Rev. Saginala Paul Prakash, Bishop of Cuddapah emphasized the Bible as God's living word - a dialogue between God and humanity. He urged Catholics to build their lives on Scripture, recommending regular reading, parish-based study, and integrating the Bible into homilies and family visits. He highlighted the importance of promoting local-language Catholic literature and involving youth in Bible-based activities.

Transmission of Faith to Younger Generations: Effective Ways and Means

Sr. Yeruva Innamma, JMJ, Former Mother General focused on the urgent need to pass on the faith to younger generations. Recognizing that today's youth face distractions, challenges, and temptations, she emphasized the role of the family and community in forming young hearts. She advocated for media outreach, role models, catechism classes, and practical Church roles for youth to help them grow in wisdom and faith, like Jesus did in His youth.

Liturgical Renewal for a Meaningful Celebration

Fr. Singareddy Innareddy, Diocese of Warangal focused on the importance of liturgical renewal. He reminded the faithful that the liturgy is communal, sacred, and governed by clear norms. Proper participation, reverence, and understanding are essential for a meaningful celebration. He warned against casual or theatrical practices, encouraging priests and laity alike to uphold the sanctity and structure of the Mass. This session was Moderated by Most Rev Jaya Rao Polimera Bishop of Eluru.

Conclusion

The Jubilee sessions highlighted a united call for renewal of hearts, minds, and practices. Women and youth must be given their rightful place in the Church, digital tools must be embraced wisely, and Scripture and Liturgy must be placed at the

center of faith life. Through unity, active participation, and faithful witness, the Church can respond meaningfully to the needs of the present age and guide future generations in the light of Christ.

The solemn celebration of the Holy Mass began at 4:30 p.m. with deep devotion and reverence, presided over by His Eminence Cardinal Antony Poola, Archbishop of Hyderabad. At the start of the Liturgy, he offered heartfelt thanks to God for the abundant blessings received during the two days of Jubilee celebrations and prayed for peace and harmony in the Telugu States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Most Rev Mallavarapu Prakash (Emeritus Bishop of Visakhapatnam Archdiocese) con-celebrated the mass.

During the Mass, Bishop Sagili Prakash Bishop of Khammam delivered an inspiring homily, reminding everyone that all success comes from God alone. Quoting Cardinal Sarah, he emphasized that true Christians should never be afraid to witness their faith. Reflecting on the Jubilee talks, he encouraged all to carry God's blessings to others and to live as true Christians through words and deeds.

The Bishop highlighted four essentials for Christian life - reading and living the Bible, participating in the Holy Mass, praying the Rosary, and proclaiming God through one's life. Concluding with St. Paul's reminder that "we are the temple of the Holy Spirit," he called for faithfulness to our promises to God. Cardinal thanked all the committees who have worked for the success of this convention.

After Mass, the faithful gathered for a joyful photo session, a thanksgiving prayer, and the lowering of the Jubilee flag, marking a grace-filled and memorable conclusion.

- Fr Raju Alex, TCBC Deputy Secretary

2. 26 Seminarians Ordained Deacons from the Telugu Region at St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad

Twenty-six seminarians from the Telugu Region were ordained deacons at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad on 28 October. Bishop Thelagathoti Joseph Raja Rao of Vijayawada, Secretary of the Telugu Catholic Bishops' Council (TCBC), conferred the sacred ordination.

Ahead of this milestone, the candidates for the diaconate undertook a five-day spiritual retreat under the guidance of Archbishop Emeritus Mallavarapu Prakasham of Visakhapatnam. The



retreat offered an enriching spiritual experience centred on themes of love, service, the importance of vocation, and the mission of the Church.

The ordination, observed with reverence and joy, marked a significant step for the seminarians as they dedicated themselves to serve Christ and the Church through the ministry of the Word, the Altar, and Charity. Though held as an internal seminary celebration, the occasion drew the prayerful support of well-wishers from across the region. The Holy Eucharist and ordination ceremony were broadcast live on Divyavani TV, allowing the faithful to join in spiritual communion.

National News

Conference of Catholic Bishops of India *Communio Sunday*

November 30, 2025 (First Sunday of Advent)

To all Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious, Catechists and Lay
Faithful of the Latin Catholic Church in India

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

The First Sunday of Advent marks a sacred threshold. With the lighting of the Candle of Hope, we step into a new liturgical year, carrying with us both the struggles of the past and the promise of what lies ahead. This single flame, small yet steady, reminds us that, even in the midst of darkness, the light of Christ never fades. The Church in India celebrates the First Sunday of Advent as the *Communio Sunday*. It reminds us that the Church is a family united in God's love, called to pray, support and serve one another.

Our world today is surrounded by fear, uncertainty and spiritual fatigue. The situation in India reflects this reality in many ways. The Church here walks a challenging path and yet, amidst its struggles, it continues its journey - not with loud proclamations, but with a quiet, enduring witness. Through education, healthcare, pastoral care and community-building, the Church reaches out, especially to the poor and the forgotten, becoming a beacon of compassion and hope.

In his first public remarks as Pope, His Holiness Pope Leo XIV offered his vision for the Church: "Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming, like this Square with its open arms, all those who are in need of our charity, our presence, our readiness to dialogue and our love." These words offer timely encouragement for us to be open-hearted and outward-looking in our mission, especially in the context of the Indian Church.

In this very context, the spark of *Communio* was born. An initiative of the Conference of Catholic Bishops of India (CCBI), *Communio* was launched to support and strengthen our mission dioceses. Through Prayer, Solidarity and Mission, *Communio* encourages the faithful to share their resources and to have a missionary spirit to build up the Church in India. *Communio* provides pastoral assistance, development aid and leadership training, especially in remote and struggling dioceses.

At the heart of this mission are around 90 trained *Communio* Volunteers - young lay men and women who have courageously committed themselves to be missionary disciples. They have gone forth into difficult and unfamiliar territories, not to be served, but to serve; not to be known, but to make Christ known. Their witness is a living sign that hope is not just something we wait for - it is something we give.

As we light the Candle of Hope this Advent, we urge every parish, community and faithful to celebrate *Communio* Sunday in solidarity with our mission dioceses. Let it be a day not only of prayer, but of concrete support. We invite everyone to be generous - with your time, your contributions and your missionary spirit. Your support allows *Communio* to reach farther, serve better and love deeper.

We deeply appreciate your generosity and goodwill to be part of *Communio*, not only today, but every day. As you are aware, *Communio* Sunday is usually celebrated on the First Sunday of Advent or on a Sunday closest to the feast of St. Francis Xavier. But each Diocesan Bishop is free to fix an appropriate Sunday for his Diocese. We earnestly invite you all to celebrate *Communio* Sunday with enthusiasm. We urge you to make the celebration meaningful in your own way in the parishes, religious communities, institutions and families.

Here are a few ways in which you can participate: (i) Display the *Communio* Sunday poster or logo prominently on parish noticeboards, bulletins and social media profiles to raise awareness; (ii) Plan a meaningful liturgical service, focused on praying for missions and missionaries; (iii) Commit to supporting *Communio* by pledging your resources, time and energy. Let us start today, right here and now!

We entrust our mission to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and Saint Francis Xavier, Patron of the Missions.

CCBI General Secretariat, September 1, 2025.

+ Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão

President, Conference of Catholic Bishops of India
Archbishop of Goa and Daman

+ Peter Machado

Vice-President, CCBI
Archbishop of Bangalore

+ Vincent Aind

Secretary General, CCBI
Archbishop of Ranchi

N.B.: It is recommended that this Circular be read and its contents explained on *Communio* Sunday (November 30, 2025) in all the parishes, religious communities and institutions of the 132 dioceses of the Latin Catholic Church in India.

2. ICYM National Youth Gathering – “WITNESS”

Celebrating 50 Years of Indian Catholic Youth Movement(ICYM)

The Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) marked its Golden Jubilee with the National Youth Gathering titled “WITNESS”, held at the Divine Retreat Centre, Muringoor Vadakkummuri, Kerala. October 1-5.

25 Youth representatives from our diocese, accompanied by the Diocesan Youth Director, undertook a five-day journey to participate in this milestone celebration. The event brought together young people from



across India, fostering unity in diversity and deepening the spirit of Catholic youth fellowship. The inaugural ceremony was followed by an orientation session outlining the programs for the days ahead. Each day featured enriching talks by prominent speakers, uplifting Gospel band performances, and moments of prayer and reflection. Highlights included interactions with Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado



(National Youth Director, ICYM and Executive Secretary, CCBI Youth Commission) and His Grace Most Rev. Bp. Jayarao Polimera, as well as a spiritually moving healing service led by Rev. Fr. Augustine Vallooran. The youth actively participated in various activities - leading

morning prayers, assisting in the Eucharistic celebrations, and engaging in cultural and musical sessions that celebrated faith and unity. The diocesan youth also joined the Telugu region in fellowship, proudly representing their culture and community. The gathering provided a valuable platform to connect with youth leaders from parish, diocesan, regional, and national levels, strengthening the collective mission of ICYM. The “WITNESS” celebration served as an inspiring reminder of the enduring vitality of Catholic youth in India and their call to be living witnesses of Christ in the world today.



International News

1. Summary of Pope Leo XIV's Apostolic Exhortation '*DilexiTe*'

DilexiTe ("I have loved you") is the title of the first apostolic exhortation promulgated by Pope Leo XIV [October 4, 2025]. The document's header explains that it's addressed to all Christians, whereas some papal documents are addressed specifically to bishops, priests, religious, etc.

The total length of the document is 121 paragraphs. In the introduction, which is three paragraphs long, Pope Leo clarifies that this document is a companion to Pope Francis' final encyclical, *DilexitNos* [October 24, 2024]. Pope Leo also clarifies that *DilexiTe* was drafted by Pope Francis, and that Pope Leo added some reflections to the draft.

Whereas Pope Francis' encyclical focused upon "the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ" [2], Pope Leo's apostolic exhortation focuses upon love for the poor. In other words, Pope Francis' encyclical focused upon the Sacred Heart of Jesus as the subject of love (that is, the one who loves), whereas Pope Leo's apostolic exhortation focuses upon the poor as the object of love (that is, the ones who are loved), albeit from a two-fold perspective: first, the poor as loved by God; and second, the poor as loved by the members of Christ's Church.

Chapter One of *DilexiTe* is titled "**A Few Essential Words**", and consists of twelve paragraphs touching upon diverse points. Pope Leo in Paragraph 5 ties together three verses from the latter chapters of Matthew. He introduces his weaving of these verses by asserting: "Love for the Lord, then, is one with love for the poor." Tying these three verses together helps the reader to see the unity forged by Jesus' two-fold command to love both God and neighbor. This two-fold command reflects the human and divine natures united in the Person of Christ. In this chapter, Pope Leo also makes a statement that reveals a motive for writing this apostolic exhortation: "I am convinced that the preferential choice for the poor is a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society" [7]. Also of note in this brief chapter is Pope Leo's explanation that there are many forms of poverty [9], a point which is not in this document fully explored.

Chapter Two is titled "**God Chooses the Poor**", and consists of nineteen

paragraphs. It is the most thoroughly Scriptural and theological chapter of the document, and chiefly focuses upon two themes. The first [16-23] is God's outreach to the poor being fulfilled in the Messiah who Himself chose to be poor. The second theme [24-34] is the call of God to His People-both the People of Israel in the Old Testament, and the Church in the New Testament-to imitate His merciful love for the poor. A briefly mentioned though undeveloped point is that "works of mercy are recommended as a sign of the authenticity of worship" [27]. Hopefully Pope Leo XIV during a lengthy papacy will reflect in his writings about the link between the Church's heritage of care for the poor and the heritage of the Sacred Liturgy.

Chapter Three is titled "**A Church for the Poor**", and consists of 47 paragraphs. It's by far the longest chapter of the document: in fact, it's more than twice as long as the second-longest chapter. Nonetheless, Chapter Three is a straightforward survey of saints who with zeal and devotion lived Christ's call to serve the poor, which call Pope Leo wants Christians today to take up.

The survey starts in the apostolic era with the example of St. Stephen. Pope Leo suggests that it's not a coincidence that the first martyr of the Church was a deacon: one ordained for service of the poorest. In St. Stephen, "the witness of caring for the poor and of martyrdom are united" [37]. The survey also includes the witness of the Fathers of the Church [39-48], of those in monastic life [53-58], and of religious such as Franciscans and Dominicans who embraced poverty in a radical way as itinerant friars [63-67]. The survey also reflects upon individual saints and religious orders dedicated to particular examples of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy: to the sick and suffering [49-52], to prisoners [59-62], to the education of the poor [68-72], and to migrants [73-75]. The chapter concludes by considering popular movements "made up of lay people" who dedicate their apostolates to caring for the poor [80-81].

Chapter Four is titled "**A History that Continues**". Over 21 paragraphs, the chapter considers the Church's "veritable treasury of significant teachings concerning the poor" expounded over the past two centuries [83], beginning with Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* [May 15, 1891]. The chapter continues by exploring the teachings of the Second Vatican Council [84-86], and the three popes immediately preceding Pope Leo XIV [87-97]. The chapter concludes with a brief section titled "The poor as subjects" [99-102]. Pope Leo considers the Latin American bishops' *Aparecida Document* [June 29, 2007], which "insists on the need

to consider marginalized communities as subjects capable of creating their own culture, rather than as objects of charity on the part of others” [100; emphases in the original]. In a similar vein, Pope Leo quotes Pope Francis’ call to “let ourselves be evangelized” by the poor and to recognize “the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them” [102, quoting Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* [November 24, 2013], 198].

Chapter Five, titled “A Constant Challenge”, consists of the final nineteen paragraphs of *DilexiTe*. Pope Leo notes that “love for the poor-whatever the form their poverty may take-is the evangelical hallmark of a Church faithful to the heart of God” [103]. That truth is based upon even more fundamental truths of the Christian Faith: “No Christian can regard the poor simply as a societal problem; they are part of our ‘family.’ They are ‘one of us’” [104]. This solidarity with the poor raises the stakes even beyond those presented in the Parable of the Good Samaritan, to which Pope Leo next turns [105-107]. Jesus taught that parable to a scholar of the law to answer the question, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus taught the scholar of the law to see the suffering person as his neighbor, but Jesus teaches His disciples to see the suffering person as “one of us”.

Pope Leo concludes *DilexiTe* with a section of seven paragraphs about almsgiving [115-121]. This might not seem a grand way to draw the document to a close. Yet the simplicity, smallness, concreteness, and directness of the venerable Christian practice of almsgiving reinforces the key points of Pope Leo’s first apostolic exhortation. Each of these four qualities of almsgiving also marks: the love of God for the poor; the Incarnation of God’s divine Son in poor, mortal flesh; and the earthly mission of Christ’s Church. The individual Christian is called to serve the poor as Christ Himself did: seeing in the poor a human person created by God, bearing a heart called to love God and fellow man, and invited to share in the Father’s eternal banquet

Source: reflectionsonthesacredliturgy.com

2. II International Congress on the Pastoral Care of the Elderly

Theme: “Your Old Men Shall Dream Dreams”

Venue: General Curia of the Society of Jesus, Rome

Dates: 2-4 October 2025

CCBI Commission for Family Representatives:

Fr. Arul Raj Gali, CSC – Executive Secretary.

Mr. Raja Shanmugam – Member, National Council.



Highlights: Congress focused on the growing global elderly population and the Church's pastoral response.

Key concerns: Loneliness, neglect, financial and health vulnerability, and lack of spiritual accompaniment

Challenges for caregivers: Inadequate training, limited pastoral formation, and insufficient structures for elderly care.

Papal Audience: Pope Leo XIV encouraged participants to make the **Pastoral Care of the Elderly** both **missionary** and **evangelizing**, involving the elderly actively in the Church's mission.

Major Recommendations:

Promote intergenerational dialogue and solidarity.

Establish offices for elderly care at dicastery, regional, and diocesan levels.

Develop parish-based inclusion programs and appoint Parish Chaplains for the Elderly.

Enhance healthcare access and geriatric training.

Encourage youth involvement and create neighbourhood support networks.

Build updated data systems and develop a theology of pastoral care for the elderly.

Follow-up: Fr. Arul Raj Gali met with Dr. Vittorio Scelzo, Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, to strengthen collaboration and promote pastoral outreach to the elderly in India.

Conclusion: The Congress reaffirmed the Church's commitment to accompany the elderly with compassion and dignity, recognizing them as **bearers of faith, wisdom, and hope** for the community.

- Mr. Alphonsus David for Family Apostolate

Dates & Events to Remember

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| 01. All Saints (S) | 17. St Elizabeth of Hungary, Rel (M) |
| 02. All Souls' Day | 18. Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter & Paul, Aps (OM) |
| 04. St Charles Borromeo, Bp (M) | 21. Presentation of the BVM (M) |
| 09. Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (F) | 22. St Cecilia, Vrg & Mrtr (M) |
| 10. St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor (M) | 23. Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (S) |
| 11. St Martin of Tours, Bp (M) | 24. St Andrew Dung-Lac & Comps, Mrtrs (M) |
| 12. St Josaphat, Mrtr (M) | 25. St Catherine of Alexandria, Vrg & Mrtr (OM) |
| 15. St Albert the Great, Bp & Dr | 30. 1 st Sunday of Advent |



Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

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| 02. Fr. Chintamohan Micheal D'Souza | 16. Fr. Madanu Ignatius Maria Shekar |
| 05. Fr. Mirapakayala Melchizedek Kennedy | 18. Fr. Kommareddy Marreddy |
| 06. Fr. Gollapudi Praveen Kumar | 20. Fr. Polisetty Anthony Vinay Kumar |
| 15. Cardinal Poola Anthony | 25. Fr. Thatireddy Jayaraj Reddy |



Necrology



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| 05. Fr. Joseph D' Souza |
| 26. Fr. Thanugundla Solomon |

MAY ALL THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

Local news items, which might be of interest to the Archdiocese may be addressed to :

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**LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE PRESBYTERY AT
ST. PAUL THE HERMIT CHURCH, NANDRAKAL PARISH ON 25TH OCTOBER, 2025**



**LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE FOR ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
AMBERPET, HYDERABAD ON 27TH OCTOBER, 2025**



HYDERABAD PROVINCE - YESU KRISTHU JAYANTHI 2025 JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT ST. JOHN'S REGIONAL SEMINARY, HYDERABAD



HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS
TO HIS GRACE
MAR PRINCE ANTONY PANENGADAN
ON BEING INSTALLED AS
THE FIRST ARCHBISHOP
OF SHAMSHABAD
SYRO-MALABAR ARCHDIOCESE.



HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO
MAR JOSEPH THACHAPARAMBATH
ON HIS EPISCOPAL CONSECRATION AS
BISHOP OF THE EPARCHY OF ADILABAD.