



SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

VOL: LIII

NO.09

SEPTEMBER 2026



Nativity of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

*Her birth
is our joy,
her life
our inspiration.*



*"Greatly rejoiced at the birth
of the Blessed Virgin Mary."
– Protoevangelium of James 4:1*

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

*"When I am lifted up
from the earth,
I will draw all people
to myself."
– John 12:32*



From Her Birth to His Cross,
God's Plan of Salvation



Archdiocese of Hyderabad at the Fifth National March for Life



ST. MARY'S CENTENARY COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT

School of Business Management
— Secunderabad —

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS

**MBA (2024-2026 — 2nd Batch) students in
4th Semester External Examinations June - 2026**



**His Eminence
Cardinal Poola Anthony**
Chairman of HAES and
Archbishop of Hyderabad



Msgr. Yeruva Bala Showry
Vice-Chairman of HAES

“ Your hard work, resilience, and commitment to management excellence have culminated in this glorious moment. May this success be the stepping stone to brilliant corporate leadership careers ahead! ”

With Regards, Fr. P. Anthony Vinay (Director SMCCoM)

SHEPHERD'S CALL

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

SEPTEMBER

2026



Archbishop's Message



The community of the Catholic Church, both in its particular and universal dimensions, derives its native culture solely from the Son our Lord Jesus Christ through His holy Apostles and disciples, namely the culture of 'the Beatitudes' as taught by Him. These were the men and women who were not only taught this culture by Him but also empowered by Him to express and articulate His divine and heavenly culture as the divinely constituted kingdom of heaven amidst the post-original world of sin and death, through His bestowal of His Holy Spirit on them on the day of the Pentecost, namely the Spirit of Truth who proceeds at once from Him and His Eternal Father in their one divine nature: 'Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit..." So those who received the word were baptized and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising and thanking God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved (Acts 2:38-47).' The universal culture of the post-original world of sin and death is one of 'functions

and festivities.’ The Son our Lord Jesus Christ personally expresses His divine culture in the people of His kingdom of heaven on earth through the mission of His Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth in every believing member of it and enables them to express it and articulate it amidst the kingdom of the world around them. Every human person will be judged in terms of his or her expressed and articulated culture at the judgement seat of Christ and either accepted for eternal life or condemned for ever at the judgement seat of Christ solely on the basis of the particular culture they have adopted, expressed and articulated in the course of their earthly journey to His judgement seat: *‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world’* or *‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal hell fire prepared for the Devil and its angels’* (c.f.St.Matt.25:31-46). As we celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul on September 27th, we must assess the extent to which the Vincent de Paul societies in our parishes and dioceses express, articulate and promote the culture of the Son our Lord Jesus among the baptized people of His heavenly kingdom and Church on earth.

POPE’S INTENTION: SEPTEMBER, 2026

For the care of water: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



CARDINAL’S INTENTION: SEPTEMBER, 2026

Let us pray that every girl child may be cherished as a precious gift of God, protected from discrimination, violence, and exploitation, and given equal opportunities to learn, grow, and flourish with dignity.



Solemnities and Feasts

Sept. 05

St. Teresa of Calcutta



Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu in Skopje, felt a deep call to serve the poor at the age of twelve. At eighteen, she left home forever to join the Loreto Sisters in Ireland, later moving to India in 1929. For twenty years, she taught in Calcutta. On September 10, 1946, while traveling to Darjeeling, she experienced a “call within a call” an inner voice of Jesus asking her to leave the convent and serve Him in “the poorest of the poor.” After two years of discernment, spiritual testing, and obtaining Church approval, she began her mission in 1948.

In 1950, she founded the Missionaries of Charity, taking a fourth vow to serve the most destitute. Her work spread from Calcutta to every continent, reaching the homeless, sick, and abandoned. Honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, she always pointed attention to Christ in the poor. For decades, she endured a profound interior darkness, offering her service without selfish motive pure love born of faith and hope. Canonized in 2016, she remains a shining witness of humility, compassion, and total dedication to Christ’s thirst.

Saint Mother Teresa, you lived to quench Christ’s thirst by loving the poorest of the poor. Pray for me, that I may give myself wholly to others, with a pure heart and unwavering trust in Jesus.

Sept. 08

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Church joyfully celebrates the **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** on September 8, exactly nine months after the Solemnity of her Immaculate Conception (December 8). This feast invites us to rejoice in the birth of the one chosen by God to be the **Mother of His Son, Jesus Christ**.

Mary’s birth is a dawn of hope for humanity. With her coming into the world, God prepared a pure vessel for the Incarnation of His Son, the Savior of the world. Just as the rising of the morning star announces the light of day, so Mary’s birth heralds the coming of Christ, the true Light.

Tradition tells us that Mary was born to **Saints Joachim and Anne**, who

longed for a child and were blessed in their old age. Their daughter, filled with grace from her very beginning, grew to become the humble maiden of Nazareth who said “Yes” to God’s plan.

The feast of Mary’s nativity is therefore not only a celebration of her birth but also a reminder of God’s providence in salvation history. It calls us to imitate Mary’s humility, faith, and openness to God’s will.

As we honor the Mother of our Savior, let us ask her intercession that our lives, too, may bring Christ into the world through our words and actions.

O Mary, born without sin and full of grace, pray for us, that we may always walk in faith and love, bringing Christ to others as you did.



Sept. 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



On September 14, the Church celebrates the **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, a feast that honors the instrument of our salvation. What was once a symbol of shame and suffering has, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, become the sign of victory, hope, and eternal life.

The feast has its origins in the 4th century, when St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered the True Cross in Jerusalem. Later, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built on the site of Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection, and the Cross was solemnly venerated there.

This day reminds us that the Cross is not merely an object but a powerful mystery: the place where Jesus gave His life in love, conquering sin and death. For Christians, to “exalt” the Cross means to embrace it in our own lives — accepting sacrifices with faith, offering our struggles with love, and uniting them with Christ’s redeeming sacrifice.

The Cross is thus both a challenge and a comfort: it calls us to die to selfishness and sin, yet assures us of God’s victory and glory.

We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

On September 29, the Church celebrates the feast of the **Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael**, heavenly messengers of God who play unique roles in salvation history.

St. Michael ("Who is like God?") is the protector of the Church and leader of the heavenly hosts in the battle against evil (Revelation 12:7–9). He defends us in spiritual warfare and reminds us to stand firm in faith.



St. Michael



St. Gabriel



St. Raphael

St. Gabriel ("God is my strength") is the messenger of the Incarnation, announcing to Mary that she would be the Mother of the Savior (Luke 1:26–38). He is a herald of good news and bearer of God's promises.

St. Raphael ("God heals") appears in the Book of Tobit as a companion and guide, bringing healing and protection. He is invoked especially for travelers and the sick.

This feast reminds us that angels are not distant figures, but part of God's providential care for humanity. They are protectors, guides, and messengers, sent to assist us on our journey of faith.

As we honour the Archangels, let us seek their intercession:

St. Michael, defend us from evil.

St. Gabriel, help us to listen to God's Word.

St. Raphael, bring us God's healing and peace.

Heavenly Father, through the protection of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, guard us in faith, guide us in hope, and heal us in love. Amen.

Archbishop's Engagements

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

SEPTEMBER 2026

- 01-03. Tue-Thu : TCBC Extra Ordinary Meetings at St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur
04. Fri 06.00 p.m. : 140th Anniversary of Establishment of Catholic Hierarchy in India at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry
05. Sat 10.30 a.m. : Holy Matrimony at Infant Jesus Shrine, Emjala
07. Mon : In Office
08. Tue 11.00 a.m. : Annual Feast of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, Khairathabad
09. Wed : In Office
10. Thu 05.30 p.m. : 10th Episcopal Anniversary of Most Rev. Chinnabathini Bhagyaiah, Bishop of Guntur
13. Sun 11.00 a.m. : Festive Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Jahanuma
- 14-16. Mon-Wed : CCBI Executive Committee Meeting, St John's, Bengaluru
15. Tue : Seminar at Kristu Jyoti College, Bengaluru
- 17-18. Thu-Fri : CBCI Standing Committee Meeting, St John's, Bengaluru
20. Sun 10.30 a.m. : Festive Mass at Holy Cross Church, Vanasthalipuram
21. Mon 09.30 a.m. : Clergy Recollection, Archbishop's House
22. Tue : In Office

24. Thu : In Office
26. Sat 10.00 a.m. : 25 years of Silver Jubilee, B Sc Nursing and 45 Years of Sapphire Jubilee of General Nursing at JMJ Nursing College, Sanathnagar
27. Sun 09.00 a.m. : Festive Mass at St. Michael's Church, Golconda
28. Mon : In Office
29. Tue 05.00 p.m. : Solemn Profession at St. Colette's Monastery Velankanni Nagar, Shamshabad

TENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS: OCTOBER 2026

- 01-05. Thu - Mon : Cologne, Germany
- 06-14. Tue : 10th Anniversary of Apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Rome.

31st August 2026
Archbishop's House

✠ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad

LOCAL MASS INTENTIONS

DATE	PARISH/INDIVIDUAL	NO. OF MASSES
25-07-2026	TRIMULGHERRY	550
31-07-2026	DAMMAIGUDA	116
07-08-2026	KUKATPALLY	170
10-08-2026	SULTAN BAZAR	12
12-08-2026	SECUNDERABAD	1000
18-08-2026	KHARITHABAD	638
24-08-2026	NIZAMABAD	104
24-08-2026	GUNFOUNDRY	120
25-08-2026	TRIMULGHERRY	550
26-08-2026	SULTAN BAZAR	100
27-08-2026	METTUGUDA	6000
Total		9360

Communications

1. BLESSED FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LADY!

On September 8th, we celebrate the birth of Mary, the dawn before the sunrise of Christ. Chosen from all eternity, she was made pure to become the dwelling place of God among us. Her birth is a quiet promise that hope is on its way. In her humility and love, we find the model for our own lives of faith. May her example draw us closer to holiness and to one another. Wishing you a Blessed Feast, held always in Our Lady's prayers.

2. ANNUAL RETREAT FOR THE CLERGY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD:

The Annual Retreat for the clergy of the Archdiocese will be held from October 12th to 16th, 2026, at Palotine Retreat Center, Trivandrum, Kerala. As this will be a closed retreat, priests are requested to bring their personal belongings. Since a number of priests have opted for a personal retreat this year, only one common retreat will be conducted.

3. ARCHDIOCESAN CLERGY MONTHLY RECOLLECTION:

Clergy Recollection is arranged at Archbishop's House on 21th (**Monday**) **September, 2026** from 09.30 am to 01.00 pm. All the Archdiocesan Priests and Religious & other Diocesan Pastoral clergy working in the archdiocese are to participate in this recollection.

4. VERIFICATION OF PROPERTY STATUS OF PARISHES AND DIOCESAN LANDS:

The clergy of the Archdiocese are requested to verify the land documents of their respective parishes and cross-check the revenue records to confirm that the property is registered in the name of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad Society / Hyderabad Archdiocese Educational Society (HAES) / Hyderabad Archdiocese Social Service Society (HASSS). If the property is not reflected as such in the revenue records, kindly bring it to the notice of the Chancellor's Office at the earliest.

5. TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS:

- Rev. Fr. David Francis- Priest-In-charge, (Ad Tempus) St. Mary's Basilica with effect from 6th September 2026
- Rev. Fr. Marineni Arogyam –Medical Leave
- Rev. Fr. Kurma Thomas – Adjutant Judicial Vicar (Marriage Tribunal)

We wish you all the best and God's Blessings in your new assignments. May our Lord Jesus give you wisdom and knowledge to be effective ministers of the Gospel.

With Regards and Prayers
✠ **Cardinal Poola Anthony**
Archbishop of Hyderabad

140 YEARS OF CATHOLIC HIERARCHY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD (1886–2026)

Grateful for the Past, Faithful in the Present, Hopeful for the Future

A Journey of Grace and Faith

The 140th anniversary of the establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in Hyderabad (1886–2026) is a moment of profound gratitude to God for His abundant grace and guidance throughout the journey of our local Church.

The Catholic presence in the Deccan has its roots in the missionary efforts of earlier centuries. A significant milestone was reached in 1851, when the Vicariate Apostolic of Hyderabad was established. Missionaries, priests and religious men and women gradually brought the Gospel to the people, travelling to distant communities and establishing churches, schools and institutions of service.

The Establishment of the Hierarchy – 1886

A decisive moment came on 1 September 1886, when Pope Leo XIII established the Catholic Hierarchy in India and the Vicariate Apostolic of Hyderabad was raised to the Diocese of Hyderabad. Bishop Peter Caprotti, PIME, became its first bishop.

The Diocese then covered a vast territory, extending into areas that today form part of several dioceses and states. This marked the beginning of a new and significant chapter in the history of the Catholic Church in Hyderabad.



First Vicar Apostolic
of Hyderabad
**Archbishop Daniel
Murphy**
1851-1865



Second Vicar Apostolic
of Hyderabad
**Bishop Domenico
Barbero, P.I.M.E.**
1870 - 1881



Third Vicar Apostolic
of Hyderabad and
First Bishop of
Hyderabad
**Bishop Pietro
Caprotti, P.I.M.E.**
1882-1897



Second Bishop of
Hyderabad
**Bishop Pietro
Andrea (Pierre-
André) Viganò, S.J.**
1897-1908



Third Bishop of
Hyderabad
**Most Rev. Dennis
Vismara, P.I.M.E.**
1909-1948



Fourth Bishop of
Hyderabad
**Most Rev.
Alphonsus Beretta**
1950-1953



Fifth Bishop of
Hyderabad
**Most Rev. Joseph
Mark Gopu**
1953-1971



Second Archbishop
of Hyderabad
**Most Rev. Samineni
Arulappa**
1972-2000



Third Archbishop of
Hyderabad
**Most Rev.
Marampudi Joji**
2000-2010



Fourth Archbishop
of Hyderabad
**Archbishop
Thumma Bala**
2011-2020

The Missionary Beginnings

The early decades were marked by missionary sacrifice and remarkable growth. Churches and mission stations were established, while education, healthcare and charitable works became important expressions of the Church's evangelizing mission.

St. Joseph's Church, Gunfoundry, became the Cathedral of the Diocese in 1887 and remains a historic symbol of the Catholic presence in Hyderabad.

From One Diocese to Many Local Churches

As the Church expanded, the vast Diocese of



Hyderabad gradually gave birth to several new ecclesiastical territories. Parts of its original territory contributed to the formation of dioceses including Bellary, Vijayawada, Warangal, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Nalgonda, Eluru and Khammam.

This expansion enabled the Church to reach more people and respond more effectively to the pastoral needs of different regions. What began as a vast missionary territory gradually developed into a network of vibrant local Churches.

Hyderabad Becomes an Archdiocese – 1953

Another historic milestone came on 19 September 1953, when the Diocese of Hyderabad was elevated to the dignity of a Metropolitan Archdiocese.

Archbishop Joseph Mark Gopu became its first Archbishop. This elevation marked an important stage in the maturity and growth of the Church of Hyderabad and entrusted the Archdiocese with a wider pastoral responsibility.

Our Archbishops

The Archdiocese has been blessed with the pastoral leadership of devoted shepherds. Following Archbishop Joseph Mark Gopu, the Archdiocese was guided by Archbishop Samineni Arulappa, Archbishop Marampudi Joji, and Archbishop Thumma Bala.

Each Archbishop, in his own time and through his own gifts, contributed significantly to the spiritual, pastoral, educational and social development of the Archdiocese.

Cardinal Poola Anthony – A Historic Chapter

In 2020, Archbishop Poola Anthony assumed the pastoral leadership of the Archdiocese. His elevation to the College of Cardinals in 2022 was a historic moment for the Church in Hyderabad, Telangana and India.

He became the first Cardinal from the Telugu-speaking Church of the Catholic Church in India. In 2026, he was also elected President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI), adding a wider responsibility to his service to the Church in India.



A Church Built by Many

The history of these 140 years is not merely a history of bishops and institutions. It is the story of countless missionaries, priests, religious women and men, catechists, families, teachers, healthcare workers, benefactors and lay faithful who, through their faith, sacrifice and service, helped build the Church of Hyderabad.

Their commitment enabled the Archdiocese to grow in evangelization, education, healthcare, social development, youth ministry, vocation promotion and care for the poor and marginalized.

Our Mission Today

Today, the Archdiocese of Hyderabad continues this mission in a rapidly changing society. Inspired by the Gospel and attentive to the signs of the times, it seeks to be a Church that listens, accompanies, serves and evangelizes, with particular concern for the poor, vulnerable, young people and families.

The Church continues to proclaim Christ not only through words but also through compassionate service and a commitment to human dignity, justice and the common good.

Grateful for the Past, Hopeful for the Future

The 140th anniversary is therefore both a celebration and a call to renewal. We give thanks for the faith we have received, honour those who faithfully handed it on to us, and commit ourselves to carrying forward their missionary legacy.

As we look back with gratitude, may we look forward with renewed hope and courage.

140 years of grace.

140 years of faith.

140 years of mission.

140 years of service.

A Prayer for the Journey Ahead

May God bless the Archdiocese of Hyderabad, its shepherds, priests, religious and lay faithful. May Mary, Mother of the Church, and St. Joseph, our patron, continue to accompany and guide us as we journey together into the future.

May the grace that sustained our Church for 140 years continue to inspire us to proclaim the Gospel, serve God's people and be witnesses of Christ's love in our world. To God be the glory for the past, grace for the present, and hope for the future.

NOTE: As we joyfully commemorate 140 years of the establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in Hyderabad (1886–2026), we invite all the faithful to join us in giving thanks to God for the abundant blessings and grace bestowed upon our Archdiocese throughout these years.

The Holy Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Gunfoundry, Hyderabad, on 4 September 2026 at 6:00 p.m by His Eminence Anthony Cardinal Poola, Archbishop of Hyderabad.

Kindly participate in this thanksgiving celebration and join us in prayer as we gratefully remember our rich heritage and entrust the future of our Archdiocese to God's loving providence. Your presence and prayerful participation will make this celebration truly meaningful.

140th
ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
**CATHOLIC
HIERARCHY**
IN INDIA

The year 2026 marks the 140th anniversary of the establishment of the Catholic Hierarchy in India, established on 1 September 1886 by His Holiness Pope Leo XIII.

All priests and parishioners of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad are warmly invited to participate in the
HOLY EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

**FRIDAY,
4 SEPTEMBER 2026
6:00 P.M.**

**AT ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHEDRAL,
GUNFOUNDRY,
HYDERABAD.**

Let us come together as one family of faith to give thanks to God for 140 years of faith and mission, and to pray for the continued growth and mission of the Church in India.

All are cordially invited

CARDINAL POOLA ANTHONY

Archbishop of Hyderabad



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

Archbishop's House, H. No. 9-1-17/1,
11, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad - 500 003
Telangana State, India. Tel. Off. +91-7207940883

29th August 2026

To

All Priests, Religious and Pastoral Leaders of the Archdiocese of Hyderabad

Subject: Call to Prayer and Charitable Contribution for the Victims of the Glacial Lake Outburst Flood in Nepal

My dear Fathers, Religious and Pastoral Leaders,

Warm greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd who feels the pain of every wounded soul and calls us to bind up the broken-hearted.

As you may already be aware, our neighbouring nation of Nepal has been struck by a devastating Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), which has claimed precious lives, injured many, displaced countless families, and caused extensive damage to homes, livelihoods and infrastructure. The scale of this tragedy weighs heavily on our hearts, and as members of the one human family, we cannot remain unmoved by the suffering of our brothers and sisters across the border.

As President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, I have already, on behalf of the entire Conference, conveyed our heartfelt condolences and prayerful solidarity with the people of Nepal, and invited the faithful across the country to remember the victims, the bereaved families, and the nation of Nepal in prayer during the Sunday Holy Mass on 30th August 2026. I now address this personal appeal to you, dear Fathers, Religious and Pastoral Leaders, so that our own local Churches may respond to this national call with particular fervour and generosity, and every parish, religious community and institution may observe this day of prayer with sincerity and devotion.

I therefore request each of you, dear Fathers, to:

1. Include special prayers and intentions for the deceased, the missing, the injured and the displaced of Nepal in the Sunday Holy Mass on 30th August 2026, and in the Masses and prayers of your communities in the days ahead;
2. Take up a special collection in your parishes and institutions on 6th and 13th September 2026, towards relief and rehabilitation efforts for the victims of this calamity; and forward the amount collected to the Archdiocesan Chancery office, at the earliest by 16th September 2026, indicating clearly that it is meant for "Nepal Flood Relief," so that the Archdiocesan Chancery may channel it promptly, through the appropriate Church agencies, to those in need.

Let this be for us not merely an act of charity, but a genuine expression of the Gospel call to love our neighbour, especially in times of distress. I am confident that the generosity and compassion of the faithful of our Archdiocese, as always, will bring comfort and hope to those who have lost so much.

May the compassionate Lord grant eternal rest to the departed, healing and strength to the injured, consolation to the grieving, and courage to all those labouring tirelessly in the ongoing rescue and relief operations. May Our Lady, Health of the Sick and Help of Christians, intercede for the people of Nepal in this hour of need.

Thanking you for your prompt and generous response, and assuring you of my prayers and blessings,

Devotedly in Christ,


+ Cardinal Poola Anthony
Archbishop of Hyderabad
President, (CBCI)



Email : archdiohyd@gmail.com

Web: www.archdioceseofhyderabad.org

2ND SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2026

Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount	Sl No.	Date	Place	Amount
1		Armoor		54		Lillipur	
2		Aliabad		55		Mahendra Hills	
3		Alirajpet		56	14-07-2026	Madinaguda	2500
4	14-07-2026	Alwal	12240	57	23-07-2026	Mallapur	998
5		Ammuguda		58		Manikonda Mission	
6		Arogya Nagar (Mission)		59	15-07-2026	Mariapuram (Adibatla)	1000
7		Arul Colony		60		Medak	
8		Balaji Nagar		61		Medchal	
9		Band Lines		62		Medipally	
10	13-07-2026	Bandlaguda Jagir	35000	63		Mettuguda	
11	21-08-2026	Banjara Hills	12500	64		Miyapur	
12		Basuregadi		65		Moul-Ali	
13	03-08-2026	Bayyaram	410	66	29-07-2026	Mudfort	19895
14		Bazarghat		67		Muthangi	
15	14-07-2026	BHEL - MIG	7000	68		Nacharam	
16	16-07-2026	Begumpet	6060	69		Nandrakal	
17		Bodhan		70		Nedunoor	
18		Boduppal		71		Neela Camp	
19		Bhoiguda		72	24-08-2026	Nizamabad	1500
20		Bolarum		73		Nizampet	
21	15-07-2026	Bolligudem	1500	74		Pargi	
22	11-08-2026	Borabanda	2600	75		Patancheru	
23	21-07-2026	Bowenpally	10000	76	11-08-2026	Ramachandrapuram	8000
24		Cherlapally		77	14-07-2026	Ramanthapur	3200
25		Chintalacheruvu		78	17-08-2026	Ramnagar	12500
26		Church Colony		79		Sadasivpet	
27	31-07-2026	Dammaiguda	12500	80		Sainikpuri	
28		Dharmaram		81	22-07-2026	Sanathnagar	19300
29		Dayanandnagar		82		Sangareddy	
30		Emjala		83	17-07-2026	Santhoshnagar	2000
31	07-08-2026	Gaddiannaram	3480	84		Sappers Lines	
32	20-07-2026	Gagillapuram	2000	85	16-07-2026	Secunderabad	50000
33		Gajwel		86		Shabad	
34	13-07-2026	Gandhinagar	9458	87		Shamshabad	
35		Garrison (Trimulgherry)		88	14-07-2026	Shanthinagar	3260
36	11-08-2026	Ghatkesar	900	89		Shapurnagar	
37	13-07-2026	Golconda	16000	90		Siddipet	
38	21-07-2026	Godumakunda	800	91		Seethaphalmandi	
39	30-07-2026	Gunfoundry	14300	92	10-08-2026	Sultan Bazar	4000
40	13-07-2026	Jadi Jamalpur	300	93	14-07-2026	Suraram	3000
41	28-07-2026	Jagadgirigutta	3500	94		Tandur	
42		Jahanuma		95		Toopran	
43		Jeedimetla		96	28-07-2026	Trimulgherry	32500
44		Jeeva Jala		97		Uminthal	
45		Jogipet		98		Vanasthalipuram	
46		Jojipet		99	29-07-2026	Venkatapuram	6000
47		Kalwakole		100		Vikarabad	
48		Kamareddy		101	21-07-2026	Yapral	10000
49		Khairatabad		102		Yeddumylaram	
50		Kissan Nagar		103		Yellareddy	
51	13-07-2026	Kukatpally	31000	104		Zaheerabad	
52		Lallaguda				Total	362474
53	14-07-2026	L. B. Nagar	1273				

Pastoral News

1. ANNUAL FEAST, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION AT ST. ALPHONSA CHURCH, MIG COLONY, BHEL



2. ANNUAL FEAST, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION AT ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH, BANJARA HILLS



Archdiocesan News

1. GRANDPARENTS' DAY CELEBRATION, AT ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH, VENKATAPURAM

"To cherish our elders is to honour the roots that have nourished our families with love, faith, wisdom, and sacrifice." St. Anthony's Parish,



Venkatapuram, celebrated the Feast of Saints Anne and Joachim, the grandparents of Jesus, as Grandparents' Day on Sunday, 26 July 2026. The celebration honoured the grandparents and elders of the parish for their love, wisdom, faith, and sacrifices.

The Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Maria Raju, with Rev. Fr. Maria Shaker delivering the homily. The entire programme was organized by the parish youth, who presented the elders with handmade heart-shaped badges bearing the words "Loving Grandparent" as a token of love and appreciation.

After Mass, the grandparents and elders enjoyed a fellowship breakfast followed by fun-filled games such as Musical Chairs and Passing the Hat. A photo booth was also arranged to capture the joyful moments.

The celebration brought priests, elders, children, and youth together in an atmosphere of joy, gratitude, and intergenerational communion. It was a beautiful reminder of the invaluable role of grandparents and elders in nurturing faith, family, and community.

- Fr. M. Kennedy (Parish Priest)

2. ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD AT THE FIFTH NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE

The Fifth National March for Life was held at Stella Maris College, Chennai, on 8–9 August 2026, under the patronage of Most Rev. George Anthonyswamy, Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore. The two-day event brought together members of various pro-life organizations and participants from across India through exhibitions, skits, testimonies, and other programmes promoting the dignity and sanctity of human life.

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad was led by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, President of the CBCI, accompanied by Rev. Fr. Prabhu Das, Director of the Pastoral Centre and Spiritual Advisor of Hyderabad CCR; Rev. Fr. Anthony Madanu, Director of Jyotirmai and Regional Secretary of the Proclamation and Evangelisation Commission of TCBC; and Rev. Fr. Jerome, Youth Director of the Archdiocese. Members of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and eight youth also actively participated in the March.

A public meeting on 9 August featured several prominent speakers, including Most Rev. Francis Kalist, Archbishop of Pondicherry-Cuddalore and Episcopal Advisor to CHARIS, Mr. J. D. V. Prabhakaran, Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, and Dr. Paul Dhinakaran of Jesus Calls Ministries, who addressed the importance and dignity of human life.

The event concluded with a Solemn High Mass, presided over by Cardinal Poola Anthony and concelebrated by several Archbishops, Bishops, and priests.

A significant moment followed the Mass when the baton for the Sixth National March for Life was formally handed over to the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. Cardinal Poola Anthony, together with Fr. Prabhu Das and Fr. Anthony Madanu, received the baton from Archbishop George Anthonyswamy and Archbishop Francis Kalist.

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad now looks forward with hope and commitment to hosting the Sixth National March for Life in Hyderabad in 2027, continuing the collective mission to uphold and celebrate the precious gift of human life.

- Fr P. Prabhu Das, Director of the Pastoral Centre

3. “THARSEO” – NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY 2026 CELEBRATES FAITH, COURAGE, AND FELLOWSHIP

St. Francis de Sales Church, Shanthinagar, resonated with dynamic energy as over 750 young people from parishes across the Archdiocese of Hyderabad gathered to celebrate National Youth Sunday 2026, centered on the theme “Tharseo – Take Courage. Christ Is With You.”

Grand Welcome and Holy Eucharist: The day commenced with a warm welcome and a spirited brass band performance by the parish youth, followed by the ceremonial hoisting of the Youth Flag. A grand entrance procession marked the start of the Holy Mass, with youth bearing the flags of various parishes across the archdiocese.

Rev. Msgr Yeruva Bala Showry presided as the main celebrant, offering a meaningful introduction that set the spiritual tone for the gathering. Rev. Fr. Madanu Anthony, Procurator and Chancellor, broke the Word of God through an inspiring homily. The Mass was concelebrated by Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Bonela Prasad, Rev. Fr. Jerome, and Rev. Fr. Prabhu Das, with the entire liturgy animated prayerfully and vibrantly by the youth of Hyderabad.

Inspirational Formations and Career Insights: Fr. Naveen Nirmal MSFS, Media Secretary for MSFS India, led the primary input session, urging the youth to be discerning media consumers and to leverage modern digital channels to radiate Christ.

Industry professionals broadened the horizons of the participants:

Artificial Intelligence: Mr. Joseph Sanjay, Director of Amy Cloud Services, shared insights on modern AI applications.

Higher Education: Mr. Bernard Valentine from Ark Overseas Education guided students on study-abroad pathways, university selection, visas, and interest-free loan schemes.

Upcoming Retreat: Mr. Steve introduced the upcoming three-day youth retreat scheduled for September 11–13 at Shanti Sadanam, Ramanthapur.

The assembly was also greeted by Fr. Praveen OFM, host of the previous year’s Youth Sunday, who joined in prayer and solidarity.

Cultural Joy and Eucharistic Adoration: Following a fellowship lunch, the

Jesus Rangers Youth Band energized the crowd with Gospel music, joined by a lively rap gig from Fr. Jerome. The host parish staged engaging dance and skit performances, which flowed into open-ground party games and group dancing with over 500 young people.

The day concluded at the Altar with an hour of Praise, Worship, and Eucharistic Adoration led by Mrs. Judith and her team, culminating in the final Eucharistic blessing imparted by Fr. Jerome. Sincere gratitude is extended to the clergy, animators, and volunteers whose dedicated leadership made this Archdiocesan gathering a resounding success.

-Harry Pranay (Youth President)

4. REPORT ON THE ROUND TABLE MEETING ON THE DEMAND FOR SC STATUS FOR DALIT CHRISTIANS

Introduction

A round table meeting was conducted on **10 August 2026** at the **Press Club, Somajiguda, Hyderabad**, on the occasion of **Black Day**, to highlight the long-standing demand for **Scheduled Caste (SC) status for Dalit Christians**. The meeting was organized with the participation of representatives from **NCCDC** and a joint platform of various Christian organizations.



Purpose of the Meeting

The primary objective of the round table meeting was to discuss and draw public attention to the demand for extending Scheduled Caste status to Dalits who have embraced Christianity. Participants emphasized that Dalit Christians continue to face social, economic and educational disadvantages despite their change of religion.

The meeting also sought to strengthen the collective voice of Christian organizations and Dalit representatives and to urge the government and concerned authorities to take appropriate steps towards addressing the issue.

Proceedings

Representatives of various Christian organizations, community leaders, activists and members associated with NCCDC participated in the meeting. Speakers highlighted the historical and continuing struggles faced by Dalit Christians and discussed the implications of their exclusion from the benefits and protections available to Scheduled Castes.



The participants observed **Black Day** as a symbolic expression of their concern over the continued denial of SC status to Dalit Christians. They stressed the need for equality, social justice and equal access to constitutional safeguards and welfare measures.

The speakers called for greater coordination among Christian organizations and Dalit representatives to pursue the demand through democratic and constitutional means. They also appealed to political leaders, civil society organizations and the government to consider the issue seriously and work towards a just and equitable resolution.

Key Demands

The meeting emphasized the following demands:

- Extension of **Scheduled Caste status to Dalit Christians** on the basis of social and historical discrimination rather than religion.
- Equal access to constitutional safeguards and welfare measures available to Scheduled Castes.



- Recognition of the continuing social and economic disadvantages experienced by Dalit Christians.
- Greater representation and participation of Dalit Christians in social, educational and political processes.
- Continued dialogue between the government, Christian organizations, Dalit representatives and other stakeholders to find a meaningful solution.

Conclusion

The round table meeting held at the Press Club, Somajiguda, on **10 August 2026** provided an important platform for representatives of NCCDC and various Christian organizations to voice their concerns regarding the demand for SC status for Dalit Christians. The observance of Black Day reinforced the seriousness of the issue and highlighted the participants' commitment to pursuing social justice and equality through peaceful and democratic means.

The participants resolved to continue collective efforts, awareness programmes and advocacy until the concerns of Dalit Christians are adequately addressed and their demand for equal constitutional rights is meaningfully considered.

- Fr Thonta Prabhudas, Archdiocesan Director - Commission for SC/ST/BC

5. 80TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION AT ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, VENKATAPURAM,

"Patriotism begins in young hearts when they learn to love, respect, and serve their motherland with sincerity."

The 80th Independence Day Celebration at St. Anthony's Church, Venkatapuram, on 16th August 2026 was organized by the Catechism Teachers with the objective of inculcating patriotism among the young minds of our parish.

Fr. M. Kennedy, in his prayer invoked God's blessings upon the children, teachers, parents, and all





those gathered for the occasion. The children, with their melodious voices, sang the prayer song “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” while holding beautifully decorated tri-coloured candles. This created a prayerful and meaningful beginning

to the programme. The cultural programme showcased the talents of the catechism children through patriotic songs, dances, skit, and recitation. Telugu Choir presented a patriotic song, adding devotion and love for the nation to the celebration. A small skit on Motherland was performed, highlighting the importance of loving and respecting our country. Fr. A. Charles, Assistant Parish Priest, appreciated the efforts of the children, catechism teachers, and all those involved in organizing the programme. His words encouraged the children to grow with love for God, respect for the nation, and a sense of responsibility towards society. Mrs. Rani Ganesh, anchored the event smoothly and gracefully. The programme concluded



with a Vote of Thanks, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, which brought the celebration to a solemn and patriotic close. After the programme, breakfast consisting of vada was served to all the audience.

- Fr.M.Kennedy

Welcome - Hearty Welcome

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH

ANNUAL FEAST - THE BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A.C. Guards, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500 004. Mobile : 7799787832

FLAG HOISTING

On Saturday 29th August 2026

At 6:00 p.m.

Solemn Holy Mass and Flag Hoisting by
Most Rev. Saginala Paul Prakash
Bishop of Cuddapah

DURING NOVENA DAYS

Morning: 5:30 a.m. Rosary and 6:00 a.m. Holy Mass
By Various Zones of Our Parish
Evening: 5:15 p.m. Rosary followed by Holy Mass
By Various Parishes from the Twin Cities

TWO DAYS DIVINE CONVENTION by

Rev. Fr. A. Christu Raj MSFS

On September 4th and 5th (Friday and Saturday)
From 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

6th September

Sunday 9:45 a.m. Special Holy Mass by
Rev. Fr. Raju Alex, TCBC Secretary
followed by BLESSING OF THE SICK
by Rector of the Shrine

7th September 2026

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Grand Car Procession
With the Statue of the BLESSED MOTHER

MIDNIGHT AT 12 A.M. VIGIL MASS (English)

By Rev. Fr. Maria Raju Pasala

Principal of Fr. Rock Memorial Holy School

There is No Night Vigil Service

On Tuesday 8th September, 2026



FEAST DAY

4:00 a.m. Birthday Mass in English by
Rev. Fr. Michael Selvaraj - Rector & Parish Priest
Rev. Fr. Anthony Muthu, Asst. PP of
Our Lady of Good Health Shrine, Khairatabad
followed by **CAKE CUTTING**

5:15 a.m. Mass in Telugu by
Rev. Fr. Aduri Fathima Dwijesh, Asst. PP of
Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health, Khairatabad

6:30 a.m. Mass in English by
Msgr. Yervu Balashowreddy V.G
Correspondent

St. Joseph's PG and Degree College, Koti

7:45 a.m. Mass in Tamil by Fr. Rex Angela, S.J
Correspondent, Loyola Academy, Alwal

9:00 a.m. Mass in English by
Rev. Fr. Madanu Anthony
The Chancellor and Procurator of
Archdiocese of Hyderabad

11:00 a.m. Pontifical High Mass in Telugu by
His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony
The Archbishop of Hyderabad

4:00 p.m. Grand Car Procession with
the Statue of the Blessed Mother Mary

Rev. Fr. Michael Selvaraj, Rector & Parish Priest
Rev. Fr. Aduri Fathima Dwijesh and Rev. Fr. Anthony Muthu - Asst. PPs
Rev. Fr. Pasala Maria Raju, Principal
Parish Pastoral Council & Parishioners

NOVENA DAYS: 30TH AUGUST TO 7TH SEPTEMBER 2026, AT EVENING 6:00 P.M

DATE AND DAY	THEME	LANGUAGE	CELEBRANT OF THE DAY	PARISH
30 th August- Sunday	Mary - The Holy One of God	English	Rev. Fr. Allam Arogyam	St. Mother Theresa's Church, Manikonda
31 st August- Monday	Mary - Mother of Good Health	Telugu	Rev. Fr. Gali Samson Reddy	Mary Help of Christians Church, Santhoshnagar
1 st September- Tuesday	Mary - Surrendered to the Will of God	English	Rev. Fr. Bandanadam Anand	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Seethaphalmandi
2 nd September- Wednesday	Mary in Our Life	English	Rev. Fr. Jose Kollithanath, SDB.	St. Theresa's Church, Sanath Nagar
3 rd September- Thursday	Mary - Mother of Mercy	Telugu	Rev. Fr. Yervu Joji Reddy and Rev. Fr. Naredla Vidya Sagar	Karunagiri Shrine, Suraram
4 th September- Friday	Mary - Our Possession	English	Rev. Fr. Nagothu Showri Kishore, S.J	St. Francis Xavier's Church, Alwal
5 th September- Saturday	Mary - Queen of Families	English	Rev. Fr. Nannam Sudhakar Lawrence, OFM	St. John the Baptist Church, Anul colony
6 th September- Sunday	Mary - Model of Prayer	English	Rev. Fr. Ambati Pranith	Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bandlines
7 th September- Monday	Mary - Blessed Among All Women	Tamil	Rev. Fr. Selva Kumar Aloysius and Rev. Fr. Surlise Wilfred MMI	St. Anthony's Shrine, Mettuguda

09th September, Wednesday, 2026: 6:00 a.m. Holy Mass Followed by
LOWERING OF THE FLAG
7:00 a.m. Holy Mass in English

13th September, Sunday, 2026 : Regular Sunday Masses
9:45 a.m. Holy Mass in English for the **YOUTH OF THE TWIN CITIES**
No 12:00 Noon Mass

PRIESTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CONFESSION DURING NOVENA DAYS AND ON DIVINE CONVENTION DAY

CLOSING DAY

20th September, Sunday, 2026: Regular Sunday Masses

Special Mass for the **MARRIED COUPLES** in English at 9:45 a.m.
No 12:00 Noon Mass
6:00 p.m. Conclusion of the Feast Holy Mass Followed by Procession

KINDLY NOTE

- PRAYERFUL ATMOSPHERE AND ORDER: Let us create an atmosphere of Prayer and Devotion. Let us follow the Queue for the veneration and give preference to the Old and Sick
- PRAYER REQUEST: Please fill in PRAYER REQUEST FORM and drop in the boxes. Prayer Teams will be praying for the intentions of the Pilgrims during the Novena Days, Feast Day and other days
- OFFERINGS: MASS INTENTIONS can be booked at the Parish Office and Silver Articles are available at the counter
- CLEANLINESS: This Shrine is a Sacred Place. Preserve the Sacredness of the Place and for the convenience of the fellow pilgrims, let us maintain cleanliness. Cooking and Eating in this Shrine premises is strictly forbidden
- ACCOMMODATION: There is a Limited Accommodation in the Shrine premises. Hence allotment will be given to Out station Pilgrims ONLY upon letter from the Parish Priest and Proof of Identity. (ID Proof such as Aadhar, Driving License, Ration Card, Passport Copy etc.)
- ACCOMMODATION WILL NOT BE PROVIDED TO THE PILGRIMS FROM THE TWIN CITIES AND THE SUBURBS, HENCE YOU ARE REQUESTED NOT TO STAY IN THE PREMISES OVERNIGHT
- ACCOMMODATION IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. BOOKING MUST BE DONE 10 DAYS IN ADVANCE. THE LETTER OF THE PARISH PRIEST IS A MUST
- NO PARKING: Pilgrims are requested not to Park their vehicles in and around the Church Premises during Novena Days and Feast Day. Hence we encourage all pilgrims TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
- PARKING is available at Ram Leela Ground, Science College and Bistiwada Ground during Novena & Feast days
- TRANSPORT: TSRTC runs special buses from all major terminals in the twin cities from early morning till late evening on 7th and 8th September
- SECURITY: During the Novena Days and Feast Day is under Surveillance of Department of Police. Baggage, Unauthorized items are strictly prohibited. All such items will be under the custody of the Security. We Request your co-operation
- For any assistance like Missing Children etc. can be brought to the notice of the Enquiry Desk

Email ID: shrineofourladyofhealth08@gmail.com



Please send the screen shot of your transaction of
MASS INTENTION OR DONATIONS TO 7799787832

1. St. Mary's Centenary College of Management, Secunderabad, Celebrates Outstanding MBA Results and Growing Student Demand.

St. Mary's Centenary College of Management, School of Business Management, Secunderabad, proudly announces the outstanding academic performance of its **MBA 2024–2026 Batch (2nd Batch)** in the **4th Semester External Examinations conducted by Osmania University in June 2026**.

Out of **125 students**, an impressive **96 students secured First Class with Distinction**, while **27 students secured First Class**, reflecting the exceptional academic performance, dedication, and commitment of the students. This achievement is a matter of immense pride for the institution and highlights the sincere efforts of students, faculty, management, and parents in supporting academic excellence.

The college is also delighted to announce that **K. Shiva Shankar, who secured an outstanding Rank 46 in ICET 2026, has joined the MBA programme at St. Mary's Centenary College of Management**. Several other students who secured **ranks within the top 2,000 in ICET 2026** have also chosen the college for their management education. This growing preference reflects increasing confidence in the institution's academic standards, values, student support, and career-oriented management education.

In response to the growing demand, the college has increased its **MBA intake from 120 to 180 seats from this academic year 2026-27**, creating opportunities for more aspiring students to pursue quality management education and build successful professional careers.

Fr. Dr. Polisetty Anthony Vinay, Director– SMCCoM, congratulated the students, faculty, and parents on the excellent results. He emphasized that the students' hard work, resilience, discipline, and commitment to management excellence have culminated in this remarkable achievement and will provide a strong foundation for their future corporate leadership careers.

The institution expresses its sincere gratitude to **His Eminence, Cardinal Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad& Chairman of HAES**, for his constant support, encouragement, guidance, and blessings towards the growth and development of the college. We also thank **Rev. Msgr. Y. Balashowry, Vice-Chairman, HAES** for his motivation and support for the growth of the institution.

The college is committed to **empowering students from underprivileged and rural backgrounds** by providing accessible, quality management education, nurturing their talents, building their confidence, and helping them fulfil their dreams of becoming responsible and successful MBA professionals and future management leaders. The institution aims to create opportunities that transform aspirations into achievements and enable students to contribute meaningfully to society and the corporate world.

*- Prof. A J Praveen,
In-Charge Principal, SMCCoM*

Regional News

1. SEMINAR OF THE TELUGU CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL FORUM ON NOVEMBER 5 & 6, 2026

The TCBC Commission for Doctrine & Theology is conducting the 12th Seminar of the Telugu Catholic Theological Forum (TCTF) on November 05 & 06, 2026 at St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad.

The theme of the Seminar is "In the Light of *Magnifica Humanitas* of Leo XIV: The magnificence of Human Person: Image of God."

The participation in the Seminar is for priests / sisters / laity who are working in Andhra & Telangana states who have done higher studies in theology (at least M.Th. for priests and B.Th. for the Consecrated Sisters/Brothers and Diploma for Laity) to participate in this Seminar.

You can send an email with your name, address and contact number to tcbc.theo@gmail.com to register for the seminar. Please contact Rev. Fr. K. Marreddy, Secretary of the Commission at the above email address / Mobile No. 8332858180 for any further information regarding the Seminar.

- Fr. K. Marreddy

International News

1. MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV FOR THE 11th WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION 2026

*"They shall beat their swords into ploughshares
and their spears into pruning hooks" (Isaiah 2:4)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Lord Jesus Christ came so that we might have life and have it in abundance (cf. *Jn* 10:10). This gift of life lies at the very heart of our mission as disciples and of our shared calling to build a civilization of love. As we observe

this World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, we are once again invited to contemplate the gift of life and to cherish the earth that sustains it, for they are tangible ways of offering praise to our Creator.

Today, we are witnessing many crises and much human suffering. At the same time, it seems that the disruption to the harmonious balance of creation is accelerating. These phenomena are not unrelated; they are a single plea for healing and peace arising from a wounded world.

The God of life, revealed in Jesus Christ, offers a peace that the world cannot give: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you” (*Jn* 14:27). This peace is neither superficial nor fleeting; it flows from the enduring love of Christ and his care for every human person.

Yet this promise of peace stands in stark contrast to the realities we see in many parts of the world. The prophet Isaiah spoke of a time when nations “shall beat their swords into plowshares” (*Is* 2:4), transforming what destroys life into what sustains it. But today, we too often witness the very opposite, as efforts continue to be directed toward violence and war.

War leaves wounds that extend far beyond the battlefield. It claims lives, tears families apart and forces millions to flee their homes, thereby deepening fear, injustice and division (cf. *Gaudium et Spes*, 77-82). War also leaves behind social and ecological destruction that endures for generations. Moreover, the interaction between armed conflicts and environmental degradation often creates a vicious cycle, which destroys ecosystems, contaminates essential resources, such as air and water, and undermines food security. This fuels poverty, inequality, and new social tensions that can contribute to the emergence of further conflicts.

What is more, war creates wounds that damage the whole fabric of life, harming not only individual persons and communities, but also their broader network of relationships with the whole human family, and their harmony with creation. It reveals a deeper failure to live in God’s image and likeness, to respect life and to care for the earth entrusted to us. This is not only a political failure, but also a moral and spiritual one. Rooted in distorted desires and the misuse of human freedom and power, war stands as a counter-witness to the Gospel of peace.

The above-mentioned crises call not only for responsibility but also for a conversion of heart that will bear fruit in a deeper fidelity to God, love of one another and respect for the gift of creation. Indeed, the discord we see in the world, such as violence, injustice and ecological degradation, is not simply the result of flawed systems or structures; it is a “symptom of the deeper dichotomy that is rooted in humanity itself” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 10). In fact, the human heart is the place where the deepest struggles unfold and our fallen condition reveals itself. It is not merely the seat of emotion, but the center of the person — the place where reason, desire, will and conscience converge. It is here that we wrestle with the contradictory desires within us between love and indifference, truth and illusion, justice and injustice (cf. *Jas* 1:14–15). The wounds of war and the degradation of the earth, then, are profoundly linked to the condition of the human heart. The conflicts that torment humanity are in many ways the outward expression of interior discord and division. When the heart is distorted, relationships suffer, and the structures we build begin to reflect that disorder.

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that “the external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast” (*Homily for the Solemn Inauguration of the Petrine Ministry*, 24 April 2005). This calls us to recognize that, in some way, what is broken around is also broken within us. In order to build a peaceful society, therefore, we must not only reform structures but also renew our hearts. The deep-set causes of conflict and the exploitation of creation stem from an ethical and cultural crisis, including the loss of a sense of limits, the desire for domination, the pursuit of immediate profit, and the inability to recognize the God-given dignity of each human person.

The prophetic call to “beat swords into plowshares” (*Is* 2:4) is therefore not only a vision for nations, but a call to each person. It invites us to transform harm into life. Yet this transformation cannot be achieved through external change alone. It requires, through cooperating with God’s grace, a deeper personal and collective conversion — a returning to God, who will reorder our desires, heal our wounds and help us grow in virtue.

Without this inner transformation, peace will remain fragile and short-lived. But where hearts are renewed, new possibilities begin to open. What has been used for destruction can be redirected toward life, toward the care of the poor, the nourishment of the hungry, and the safeguarding of creation. This is

the path of authentic ecological conversion, where the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us (cf. Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 217). Peace, then, begins in the heart and flows outward to our relationships, communities and the broader world.

Although the challenges before us are enormous, God does not leave us without the means of healing and transformation. In place of the weapons of war, the God of peace grants us the strength to heal, to reconcile and to build a civilization of love. In this way, we are called to safeguard the many “ecosystems” entrusted to us: the ecosystems of creation, of human relationships and of the human heart itself.

Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcoming poverty, protecting human dignity and reconciling divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God’s Kingdom.

The true tools for building peace are not weapons of destruction, instead they are truth, dialogue, patience, goodness, justice, mercy, understanding, care and love. These flow from hearts shaped by the Gospel and sustained by God’s grace. Only these qualities possess the power to transform individuals, renew communities and heal the wounds of our world.

Dear brothers and sisters, the path before us is clear, though it is not easy. We are called to allow our hearts to be renewed, so that we might seek peace and care for creation. Scripture tells us to guard our hearts, for everything we do flows from them (cf. *Prov* 4:23).

If we take up this task with humility and faith, we will become collaborators in God’s work of renewal. We will move, slowly but surely, from desert to garden, from division to communion, and from violence to peace. May the Lord grant us the courage to walk along this path, so that in our time, swords may indeed be beaten into plowshares, and the promise of the Gospel may take deeper root in our world, and the peace of Christ may reign over all of creation.

From the Vatican, 15 August 2026, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. LEO PP. XIV

2. POPE LEO XIV APPOINTS SR NIRMALINI AS VATICAN DICASTERY CONSULTOR

Vatican City, August 6, 2026: Pope Leo XIV has appointed Sr Maria Nirmalini, A.C., as a Consultor of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, entrusting her with a five-year term of service to the universal Church.



The appointment was formally communicated in a Vatican document issued on June 18, 2026, by the Secretariat of State. The decree, addressed to the Consultors of the Dicastery, states that Sr Maria Nirmalini has been appointed to the position for five years.

The appointment places Sr Nirmalini among those called to assist the Vatican Dicastery in its work concerning institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life across the Catholic Church.

The Dicastery is responsible for matters relating to religious institutes, consecrated life and societies of apostolic life, accompanying communities in their life, governance and mission.

As a Consultor, Sr Nirmalini will be expected to contribute her experience and insights to the Dicastery's consultations and deliberations on issues concerning consecrated life. Consultors assist the Dicastery by offering expertise and counsel on matters brought before it.

Her selection reflects the contribution that experienced religious leaders can make to the Church's reflection on the challenges and opportunities facing consecrated life in different cultural and pastoral contexts.

Her five-year appointment also brings an Indian religious perspective to the Dicastery's international consultations at a time when religious congregations worldwide are responding to changing pastoral realities, new forms of mission and the evolving needs of consecrated life.

The appointment is significant for consecrated life in the Church, highlighting the role of women religious and religious leaders from different parts of the world in contributing to the discernment and mission of the Holy See.

- Catholic Connect

Dates & Events to Remember

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3. St. Gregory the Great (M) | 20. Sts. Andrew Kin Tae-Gon, Pt Paul |
| 05. Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, Vrg (Op.M) | Chnng Ha-Sang, & Comp., Mrtr (M) |
| 08. The Nativity of the BVM (F) | 21. St. Matthew, Ap & Ev (F) |
| 09. St. Peter Claver, Pt (Op.M) | 23. St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Pt (M) |
| 12. The Most Holy Name of Mary (Op. M) | 26. Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Mrtrs (Op. M) |
| 13. St. John Chrysostom, Bp & Dr (M) | 27. St. Vincent De Paul, Pt (M) |
| 14. The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (F) | 28. Wenceslaus, St. Lawrence Ruiz & |
| 15. Our Lady of Sorrows (M) | Companions, Mrtrs (Op.M) |
| 16. Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian, Mrts (M) | 29. Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, |
| 17. St. Robert Bellarmine, Bp & Dr (Op.M) | Archangels (F) |
| 19. St. Januarius, Bp & Mrtr (Op. M) | 30. St. Jerome, Pt & Dr (M) |

Happy Birthday Dear Fathers

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 02. Fr. Govindu Arogyaswamy | 17. Fr. Thanugundla Gabriel |
| 03. Fr. Gorantla Dhanraj | 18. Fr. Pasala Joseph (Jr.) |
| 08. Fr. Sunil Kumar Reddy Pallela | 18. Fr. Pasala Jose Paul |
| 08. Fr. Jogu Naveen | 26. Fr. David Francis |
| 12. Fr. Dasari Gova Showraiah | 28. Fr. Jerome Emmanuel Lewis |
| 13. Fr. Bandanadam Anand | 29. Fr. Narisetty Anthony Paul Raj |
| 15. Fr. Gade Showreddy | |
| 16. Fr. Madanu Arogya Swamy | |



Necrology

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10. Fr. Thumma Francis | 24. Fr. Akkanti Innareddy |
| 16. Fr. Bandanadam Joseph | 25. Fr. Batherapally Peter |
| 18. Most Rev. Domenico Barbero, PIME | |



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 :

The Editorial Team, SHEPHERD'S CALL

Archbishop's House, H.No: 9-1-17/1, 11, Sardar Patel Road, Secunderabad 500 003, T.S.

Tel 040-27805545, 27805418, Fax: 040-27800709

E-mail: shepherdscall1953@gmail.com

Website: www.archdioceseofhyderabad.org

Published from the Archbishop's House and printed at Jeevan Institute of Printing, Sikh Village, Sec'bad 500 009, T.S.



Archdiocesan Level - National Youth Sunday 2026



Golden Jubilee Celebrations of St. Anthony's Shrine Mettuguda



Annual Feast of St. Mary's Minor Basilica, Secunderabad

