

Hatima Vani



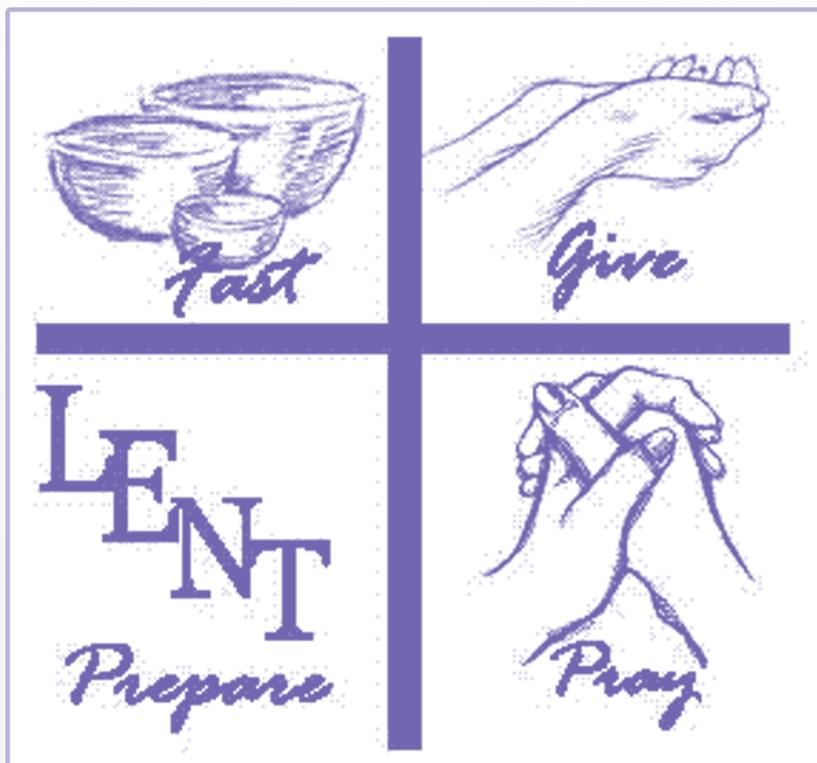
News Letter
Diocese of Warangal



Volume: XXXX

February 2015

No. 02



REMEMBER THAT YOU
ARE DUST AND TO DUST
YOU SHALL RETURN

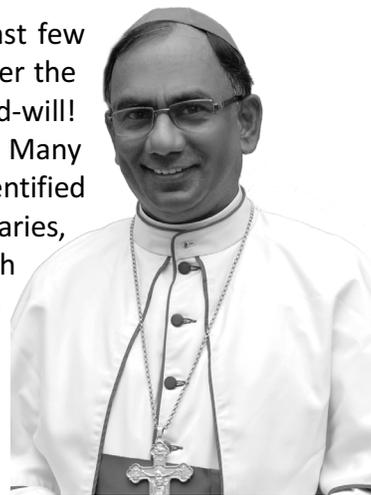


Silver Jubilee Celebrations & Inauguration of Jubilee Memorial Block at St. Antony School, LMD, Karimnagar.

KAPARI VANI...

DISTURBING HIDDEN AGENDA OF GHAR VAPSI ...

The increase of events against Christians in India in the last few months especially after the right-wing government took over the reins of governance is a great concern for all Indians of good-will! It is much more for Christians, who seemed to be targeted. Many of you must have read or heard of the 5Ms, which were identified as enemies of Hinduism by 'Hindu World Congress': Missionaries, Marxists, Muslims, Materialism and Macaulayism (English education system). Ghar vapsi is a program which proclaims 'home coming', a dubious term revolving around conversions. Indeed, the meaning of Ghar vapsi right and proper to all. It is to convert to true God with genuine faith. But as Satan can very tactfully play with Scriptures (Mt 4: 1-11, Lk 4:1-12), Ghar vapsi is made a mask for re-conversions.



Hate propaganda is set free against Christians by saffron forces. In the last 6 months, this has escalated in many places in India. Some years ago, the unspeakable violence in Kandamal in Odisha was preceded by hate propaganda. We hope it would not be a repeat but Christians cannot afford anymore to be in lull!

The Hindutva baggage insists on 'India is only for Hindus'. All its activities seem to create a 'Hindu rastra'. It appears to activate communal violence by polarizing communities based on religion. It creates a kind of 'mental fear in minorities' indicating that their identity, security and religion are in danger. They also try give false security to Hindus, who are a huge majority and therefore, do not need any security, at least this kind of security vis-à-vis Christians, who are a miniature minority. Why all this hostility against Christians? I believe that it is because they preach against 'adharma' and try to establish justice, peace and equality of all humans. They wake up the poor, marginalized and down-trodden from their ages-long ignorance of their dignity and rights cum duties. This is not palatable to the saffron forces, who are not religious people at all in contrast to most Hindus, who are for noble, tolerant and wish for the realization of "Vasudaika kutumbam". Let us know for sure that those who are promoting ghar vapsi are pretending to be custodians of Hinduism and Indian culture. Religion is powerful instrument and they have ulterior and hidden agenda to achieve their egoistic interests.

Along with the signs of the times, let us also be cock sure of Christ's call for and meaning of conversion: "The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe in the good news" (Mk 1:15) was the clarion call of Jesus inviting people for a change of heart. In Greek, it is metanoia implying in Telugu 'parivarthana, maru manasu'. It is not the mere change of religion but a genuine conversion which is personal, conscious, voluntary and self-willed. The constitution of India Section 25 guarantees this right. Therefore, there is no question of 'forced conversions' as accused. And according to Christian faith, if a conversion is forced, it is not a conversion! In contrast the ghar vapsi

program appears to be forced or enticed since public statements like a Muslim is paid Rs. 5 lakh and a Christian Rs. 2 lakh!

Therefore, the statements and happenings like 'All children born in India are Hindus', 'only Hindus are Children of India and all others are illegal children', 'no entry for Missionaries in 50 panchayats of tribals', Christmas is no holiday but good-governance day', 'let the anti-conversion bill be passed all over India', 'Let it be declared that India is a Hindu State' made by some responsible public figures and also by radical and fanatic groups and individuals wake us from our lethargy. Not only as Christians but also as citizens of India, we should fight against anti constitutional anomalies. Indian constitution upholds that every Indian has inalienable right to choose one's faith, to practice and propagate it; one's education, one's residence. We are a minority but let us realize that we are a powerful minority and we need to and we can respond to the alarming situation especially because though the Prime Minister is not directly involved, his SILENCE for not publicly condemning is a great CONCERN!

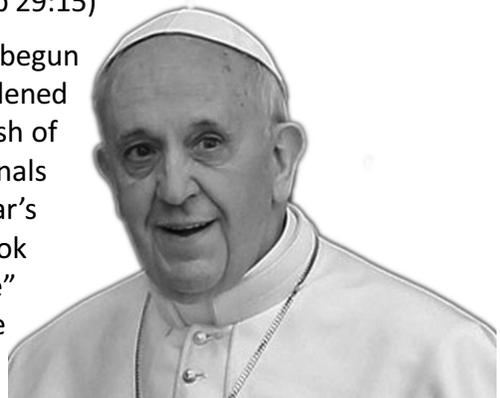
The need of the hour, reading the signs of the times is, without fear, to be firm in our faith in God who is the driver of the history, and who would take care of his Church for the furthering His Kingdom. We do not react but respond to the disturbing situation. What do you think of the reactive statement of Hyderabad MP Asaduddin 'every child born is a Muslim... therefore the real ghar vapsi means to come home to the Islam'. As we were shocked during the Advent season by the statement made by Hindu outfits, it was the turn of the Hindu hardliners to be shocked. Therefore, we can smell 'hidden agenda' in the whole issue of ghar vapsi. It is indeed a disturbing trend but a blessing to wake us up from the slumber of lethargy. Let us be conscious and committed to our vocation, especially during the year of consecrated Life to come out of comfort zones and false securities and let us pitch our tent of faith on Christ, who was 100 percent sure of God's Reign on earth. Our Central government came to power in the name of Development and Progress and upholds that Hinduism is not a religion as the Supreme Court ruled in 1995 and it is ironical that the religious fundamentalists manipulate the reconversion gimmick!

I. MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER ON THE OCCASION

OF THE 23rd WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (Job 29:15)

On this, the twenty-third World Day of the Sick, begun by Saint John Paul II, I turn to all of you who are burdened by illness and are united in various ways to the flesh of the suffering Christ, as well as to you, professionals and volunteers in the field of health care. This year's theme invites us to reflect on a phrase from the Book of Job: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (Job 29:15). I would like to consider this phrase from the perspective of "sapientia cordis" – the wisdom of the heart.



1. This “wisdom” is no theoretical, abstract knowledge, the product of reasoning. Rather, it is, as Saint James describes it in his Letter, “pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity” (3:17). It is a way of seeing things infused by the Holy Spirit in the minds and the hearts of those who are sensitive to the sufferings of their brothers and sisters and who can see in them the image of God. So let us take up the prayer of the Psalmist: “Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (Ps 90:12). This “sapientia cordis”, which is a gift of God, is a compendium of the fruits of the World Day of the Sick.

2. Wisdom of the heart means serving our brothers and sisters. Job’s words: “I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame”, point to the service which this just man, who enjoyed a certain authority and a position of importance amongst the elders of his city, offered to those in need. His moral grandeur found expression in the help he gave to the poor who sought his help and in his care for orphans and widows (Job 29:12-13). Today too, how many Christians show, not by their words but by lives rooted in a genuine faith, that they are “eyes to the blind” and “feet to the lame”! They are close to the sick in need of constant care and help in washing, dressing and eating. This service, especially when it is protracted, can become tiring and burdensome. It is relatively easy to help someone for a few days but it is difficult to look after a person for months or even years, in some cases when he or she is no longer capable of expressing gratitude. And yet, what a great path of sanctification this is! In those difficult moments we can rely in a special way on the closeness of the Lord, and we become a special means of support for the Church’s mission.

3. Wisdom of the heart means being with our brothers and sisters. Time spent with the sick is holy time. It is a way of praising God who conforms us to the image of his Son, who “came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mt 20:28). Jesus himself said: “I am among you as one who serves” (Lk 22:27). With lively faith let us ask the Holy Spirit to grant us the grace to appreciate the value of our often unspoken willingness to spend time with these sisters and brothers who, thanks to our closeness and affection, feel more loved and comforted. How great a lie, on the other hand, lurks behind certain phrases which so insist on the importance of “quality of life” that they make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living!

4. Wisdom of the heart means going forth from ourselves towards our brothers and sisters. Occasionally our world forgets the special value of time spent at the bedside of the sick, since we are in such a rush; caught up as we are in a frenzy of doing, of producing, we forget about giving ourselves freely, taking care of others, being responsible for others. Behind this attitude there is often a lukewarm faith which has forgotten the Lord’s words: “You did it unto me’ (Mt 25:40).

For this reason, I would like once again to stress “the absolute priority of ‘going forth from ourselves toward our brothers and sisters’ as one of the two great commandments which ground every moral norm and as the clearest sign for discerning spiritual growth in response to God’s completely free gift” (Evangellii Gaudium, 179). The missionary nature of the Church is the wellspring of an “effective charity and a compassion which understands, assists and promotes” (ibid).

5. Wisdom of the heart means showing solidarity with our brothers and sisters while not judging them. Charity takes time. Time to care for the sick and time to visit them. Time to be at their side like Job's friends: "And they sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great" (Job 2:13). Yet Job's friends harboured a judgement against him: they thought that Job's misfortune was a punishment from God for his sins. True charity is a sharing which does not judge, which does not demand the conversion of others; it is free of that false humility which, deep down, seeks praise and is self-satisfied about whatever good it does. Job's experience of suffering finds its genuine response only in the cross of Jesus, the supreme act of God's solidarity with us, completely free and abounding in mercy. This response of love to the drama of human pain, especially innocent suffering, remains for ever impressed on the body of the risen Christ; his glorious wounds are a scandal for faith but also the proof of faith (cf. Homily for the Canonization of John XXIII and John Paul II, 27 April 2014).

Even when illness, loneliness and inability make it hard for us to reach out to others, the experience of suffering can become a privileged means of transmitting grace and a source for gaining and growing in sapientia cordis. We come to understand how Job, at the end of his experience, could say to God: "I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you" (42:5). People immersed in the mystery of suffering and pain, when they accept these in faith, can themselves become living witnesses of a faith capable of embracing suffering, even without being able to understand its full meaning.

6. I entrust this World Day of the Sick to the maternal protection of Mary, who conceived and gave birth to Wisdom incarnate : Jesus Christ, our Lord. O Mary, Seat of Wisdom, intercede as our Mother for all the sick and for those who care for them! Grant that, through our service of our suffering neighbours, and through the experience of suffering itself, we may receive and cultivate true wisdom of heart!

With this prayer for all of you, I impart my Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican, 3 December 2014, Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier Pope FRANCIS

II. OUR LADY OF LOURDES

FEAST: FEBRUARY 11

The pilgrimage of Lourdes is founded on the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin to a poor, fourteen-year-old girl, Bernadette Soubiroux. The first apparition occurred 11 February, 1858. There were eighteen in all; the last took place 16 July, of the same year. Bernadette often fell into an ecstasy. The mysterious vision she saw in the hollow of the rock Massabielle was that of a young and beautiful lady. "Lovelier than I have ever seen" said the child. But the girl was the only one who saw the vision, although sometimes many stood there with her. Now and then the apparition spoke to the seer who also was the only one who heard the voice. Thus, she one day told her to drink of a mysterious



fountain, in the grotto itself, the existence of which was unknown, and of which there was no sign, but which immediately gushed forth. On another occasion the apparition bade Bernadette go and tell the priests she wished a chapel to be built on the spot and processions to be made to the grotto. At first the clergy were incredulous. It was only four years later, in 1862, that the bishop of the diocese declared the faithful "justified in believing the reality of the apparition". A basilica was built upon the rock of Massabielle by M. Peyramale, the parish priest. In 1873 the great "national" French pilgrimages were inaugurated. Three years later the basilica was consecrated and the statue solemnly crowned. In 1883 the foundation stone of another church was laid, as the first was no longer large enough. It was built at the foot of the basilica and was consecrated in 1901 and called the Church of the Rosary. Pope Leo XIII authorized a special office and a Mass, in commemoration of the apparition, and in 1907 Pius X extended the observance of this feast to the entire Church; it is now observed on 11 February.

The estimate that about 4000 cures have been obtained at Lourdes within the first fifty years of the pilgrimage is undoubtedly considerably less than the actual number. The Bureau des Constatations stands near the shrine, and there are recorded and checked the certificates of maladies and also the certificates of cure; it is free to all physicians, whatever their nationality or religious belief. Consequently, on an average, from two to three hundred physicians annual visit this marvellous clinic. As to the nature of the diseases which are cured, nervous disorders so frequently mentioned, do not furnish even the fourteenth part of the whole; 278 have been counted, out of a total of 3962. The present writer has published the number of cases of each disease or infirmity, among them tuberculosis, tumours, sores, cancers, deafness, blindness, etc. The "Annales des Sciences Physiques", a sceptical review whose chief editor is Doctor Ch. Richet, Professor at the Medical Faculty of Paris, said in the course of a long article, apropos of this faithful study: "On reading it, unprejudiced minds cannot but be convinced that the facts stated are authentic."

(Taken from Catholic Encyclopedia)

III. FROM FEAST TO FAST

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. The first two and a half weeks of February fall within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The remaining days of February are the beginning of Lent. The liturgical color changes to purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

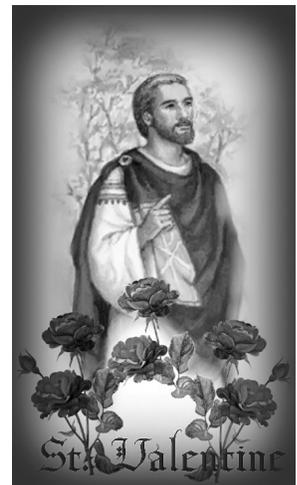
Though the shortest month of the year, February is rich in Liturgical activity, for it typically begins in one Liturgical Season (Ordinary Time), ends in another (Lent), and contains a feast (Presentation of our Lord) that bridges two other seasons (Christmas and Easter)! In addition, the faithful may receive in February three of the four major public sacramentals that the Church confers during the liturgical year: blessed candles, the blessing of throats and blessed ashes.

The Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord harkens back to the Christmas mystery of Light except that now, Christ, the helpless babe, is “the Light of Revelation to the Gentiles who will save his people from their sins.” Candles, symbolizing Christ our Light, will be carried in procession this day, as will be the Paschal candle during the Easter Vigil Liturgy.

"The Light of Revelation" shines more brightly with each successive Sunday of Ordinary Time, until its magnificence – exposing our sinfulness and need for conversion – propels us into the penitential Season of Lent. We prepare to accept the cross of blessed ashes on Ash Wednesday (February 18) and plunge ourselves into the major exercises of Lent – fasting, prayer, almsgiving – laying our thoughts and prayers on the heart of our Mother Mary. She, who offered her Son in the temple and on the Cross, will teach us how to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow after her Son.

IV. ST. VALENTINE, PATRON OF LOVERS

Valentine was a holy priest in Rome, who, with St. Marius and his family, assisted the martyrs in the persecution under Claudius II. He was apprehended, and sent by the emperor to the prefect of Rome, who, on finding all his promises to make him renounce his faith ineffectual, commanded him to be beaten with clubs, and afterwards, to be beheaded, which was executed on February 14, about the year 270. Pope Julius I is said to have built a church near Ponte Mole to his memory, which for a long time gave name to the gate now called Porta del Popolo, formerly, Porta Valetini. The greatest part of his relics are now in the church of St. Praxedes. His name is celebrated as that of an illustrious martyr in the sacramentary of St. Gregory, the Roman Missal of Thomasius, in the calendar of F. Fronto and that of Allatius, in Bede, Usuard, Ado, Notker and all other martyrologies on this day. To abolish the heathens lewd superstitious custom of boys drawing the names of girls, in honor of their goddess Februata Juno, on the fifteenth of this month, several zealous pastors substituted the names of saints in billets given on this day.



V. THE SEASON OF LENT

The season of Lent is the season of grace. It is a time for our spiritual growth. It is a time for conversion. It is a time for surrendering our lives to God. But these goals cannot be achieved without struggle and without sacrifice.

God's way in our life - We would do well to ask ourselves this question: "Why exactly do we have the season of Lent?" The primary purpose of Lent is that God may have his way with us.



King George V once wrote on the flyleaf of the Bible of one of his friends these words - "The secret of happiness is not to do what you like but to like what you have to do." I we

are looking for our spiritual growth and renewal we cannot achieve this goal by doing what we like but by learning what we have to do. Jesus says: "Whosoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it" (Lk 9:24).

There never was a brush touched to canvas nor a chisel to marble without some great pre-existing idea. So every bird and tree and flower is a realization and concretion of an idea existing in the mind of God from all eternity. Every creature except man corresponds to God's idea. God has to have two pictures of us - one is what we are and the other is what we ought to be. He has the model and He has the reality too. In every one of us there is some disproportion and want of conformity between the original plan and the way we have worked it out. Our sins diminish our personality; our evil acts daub the canvas the master had designed. Like un-hatched eggs, some of us refuse to be warmed by the Divine Love that is so necessary for incubation to a higher level. We are in constant need of repair. We fall short of all God wants us to be.

The potter and the clay - The Prophet Jeremiah was told to go to the potter's house by God. Jeremiah went to the potter's house and he saw him working at the wheel. He noticed that whenever the object which he was making turned out badly, he tried again, making of the clay another object according to his design. And God said to Jeremiah that he could do to the house of Israel what the potter had done to the clay, i.e., that he could refashion the house of Israel according to his own design.

The picture of Yahweh presented through Jeremiah is brief and simple, yet rich. Once we have accepted the fact that He is the potter and we are the clay, then we learn to accept the events - all the events - of our life with calm and equanimity.

We are the clay in the hands of the Divine Potter. We have turned out badly. God can refashion us into a living image of his Son. The clay can virtually do nothing to transform itself into an object of beauty. But it can be pliable and sensitive to the potter's touch. The clay is never broken by anything the potter may do to it, unless, of course, the clay has become hard and rigid. As long as it is malleable it will never break, but once it begins to resist the potter's touch, to push against its shaping, it will be much in danger of breaking.

So during Lent we must try our best to become pliable and sensitive and to cooperate with God's graces.

The need for self-knowledge - The second purpose of Lent is to achieve self-knowledge. By and large we deceive ourselves. For lack of self-knowledge we are not aware of our sinfulness. One of the most obvious results of sin in our lives is that we find it very difficult to face honestly our own sinfulness. As soon as Adam sinned he began to make excuses for himself. The people of Israel, when confronted by the prophets with hard truths about themselves, invariably reacted by trying to silence the prophets. When Jesus stripped the masks off the Scribes and Pharisees and revealed what really was going on in their hearts, they could not face the truth themselves or stand to be exposed before others as they really were. They acted defensively and sought to destroy Jesus. The purpose of Lent is to see ourselves as God sees us with, of course, the help of God's grace.

By sin we are misshapen. The image of God in us has been deformed and the disfigurement has hardened in the clay. As long as we are content with our shape and resist the attempts of the potter to refashion us and to thus transform us, our ugliness will seem very threatening and frightening to us.

Temptation and the crown - Our pilgrim life on earth cannot be without temptation for it is precisely through temptation that we make progress and it is only by being tempted that we come to ourselves. As St Augustine says, we cannot win our crown unless we overcome, and we cannot overcome unless we enter the contest and there can be no contest unless we have an enemy and the temptation he brings.

God's will in our life - Finally, the purpose of Lent is to enable us to conform our wills to the will of God in all matters. During the time of Lent God is inviting each one of us to be the soft and pliable clay in His hands. He wants to put order in our lives. He wants to set our wills in tune with His will.

As little children we were told that pots of gold are found at the end of the rainbow. We know now that pots of gold are never to be found at the end of the rainbow but gold must be mined from the ground laboriously. And so our spiritual growth and renewal must be achieved by earnest striving after things of the spirit. Christ tells us that we must not make food, drink, clothes and shelter the chief goal of our lives, but the kingdom of God. He says - "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you" (Mt. 6:33).

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

I. Homiletic Directory : Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments Prot. N. 531/14

DECREE

It is very poignant that Pope Francis wished to devote considerable attention to the theme of the homily in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium*. Both positive and negative aspects of the state of preaching had already been expressed by Bishops gathered in Synod, and guidance for homilists was offered in the Post-Synodal Apostolic exhortations *Verbum Domini* and *Sacramentum caritatis* of Pope Benedict XVI. From this perspective, and bearing in mind the provisions of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of the Second Vatican Council, as well as subsequent Magisterial teaching, and in light of the Introduction to the Lectionary for Mass and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, this two-part Homiletic Directory has been prepared.

In the first part, entitled *The homily and its liturgical setting*, the nature, function, and specific context of the homily are described. Other aspects that define it are also addressed, namely, the appropriate ordained minister who delivers it, its reference to the Word of God, the proximate and remote preparation for its composition, and its recipients. In the second part, the *Ars praedicandi*, essential questions of method and content that the homilist must know and take into account in the preparation and delivery of the homily are illustrated. In a way that is meant to be indicative and not exhaustive, interpretive

keys are proposed for the cycle of Sundays and Feasts, beginning at the heart of the liturgical year (the Sacred Triduum and Easter Time, Lent, Advent, Christmas Time, and Ordinary Time), and also for the Masses of weekdays, weddings, and funerals. In these examples, the criteria outlined in the first part of the Directory are put into practice: typology between the Old and New Testaments, the importance of the Gospel reading, the ordering of the readings, and the nexus between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, between the Biblical message and the liturgical texts, between celebration and life, and between listening to God and the particular assembly. Two appendices follow the main text. In the first, with the intention of showing the link between the homily and the doctrine of the Catholic Church, references are given to the Catechism according to various doctrinal themes in the readings for each of the Sundays and Feasts of the three year cycle. In the second appendix, references to various Magisterial teachings on the homily are provided. This text was presented to each of the Fathers of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, and was reviewed and approved at the Ordinary Sessions of 7 February and 20 May 2014. It was then presented to Pope Francis, who approved the publication of the Homiletic Directory. This Congregation is pleased, therefore, to make it available, desiring that “the homily can actually be an intense and happy experience of the Spirit, a consoling encounter with God’s word, a constant source of renewal and growth” (Evangeli gaudium, 135). Each homilist, making his own the sentiments of the Apostle Paul, is to renew the understanding that “as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but to please God who tests our hearts” (1 Thess 2:4). Translations into the principal languages have been undertaken by this Dicastery, while translations into other languages remain the responsibility of the concerned Conferences of Bishops. All things to the contrary notwithstanding. From the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 29 June 2014, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles. (Antonio Card. Cañizares Llovera)

II. Solemnity of Our Lady of Fatima, Patroness of the Diocese of Warangal

The diocese celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lady of Fatima on diocesan level on the 12th and the 13th of March, 2015. All the parish priests and heads of the institutions are requested to announce it in the parishes and institutions and encourage people to participate in the feast with faith and devotion. The pamphlets with Festival programme will be mailed to all in due time.

III. Health and Healing Week

Health and Healing week for this year is from the 4th to the 11th February, 2015 all the parish priests and heads of the institutions are requested to observe and celebrate health and healing week with compassion towards the sick and suffering.

IV. World Day of the Sick

Every year the Church celebrates the World Day of the Sick on the 11th of February, on the feast day of our Lady of Lourdes. I request all the Priests to observe it meaningfully.

V. Holy Childhood Day

This year the Holy Childhood day falls on the 8th of February. All Parish Priests and Heads of Institutions are requested to observe the day and make a special collection and send it to the diocesan office by the end of the month. Animate catholic children in Schools & Hostels with special preaching, prayer & contribution. Let them thank the Holy Childhood office for all the help.

VI. TELANGANA UNIT OF STATE CHRISTIAN (MINORITIES) FINANCE CORPORATION DETAILS OF THE SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED BY THE CORPORATION

1. SHAADI MUBARAK : An amount of Rs. 51,000/- is being released to the poor Christian Minority girls above 18 years of age as financial assistance for marriage by the Telangana State Govt. Eligible Christian girls can apply online through the website telanganaepass.cgg.gov.in.

2. SANCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CHURCH CONSTRUCTIONS AND REPAIRS: Financial assistance up to Rs. 1 Lakh is sanctioned for Church Construction and an amount of Rs. 30,000 is sanctioned for Church repairs.

3. TRAINING FOR CHRISTIAN MINORITY LAW GRADUATES IN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE : Scheme of Training for Christian (Minority) Law Graduates in Administration of Justice is intended to prepare Christian Law Graduates to practice as Advocates, Law Officers, Legal Advisors in High & Lower court presentation and negotiating skills etc., In total 20 students are selected for this program every year. Stipend of Rs. 1000/- per month is sanctioned for the selected students for three years and an amount of Rs. 8,000/- is given as grant for books, etc.

4. SUBSIDY TO PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND OF JERUSALEM : Christian Corporation provide financial assistance of Rs. 20,000/- for the Pilgrimage to Holy Land, During The year 2014-15, Govt. of Telangana has allotted 200 Lakhs for this scheme.

5. SUBSIDY FOR BANK LINKED INCOME GENERATION SCHEMES (ECONOMIC SUPPORT SCHEME) : The scheme is for individuals who desires to setup self-employment activities where the maximum unit cost is up to Rs. 2,50,000/-. The Corporation provides a subsidy @ 50% of the total unit subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,00,000/-. The ED/EMWO may be consulted to apply for ESS Units.

6. TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT : Christian Corporation offers intensive training programs to create gainful employment opportunities for the Unemployed Christian youth. This corporation gives industry specific training across sectors including IT and ITES, Hotel Management, Retail Engineering etc., at exclusive skills centers through multimedia content. The unique skill delivery process begins with the identification of jobs and ends with the placement of trained youth in various sectors. Christian youth may submit their application along with mandatory documents required in the O/o MD, CMFC or the concerned ED/DMWO for availing the free training and placement program.

7. FREE COACHING FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS : The Corporation provides financial assistance by way of coaching fees, study material and employment information to eligible candidates. The courses for which the coaching is provided are : (a) Civil Services

Examination - prelims and Mains. (b) APPSC - Group I, II, IV Examination, (c) Banks, Insurance Companies, Staff Selection Commission, recruitments, (d) Any other competitive examination as per need and the request of the candidates.

The applicant may submit their application along with mandatory documents required in the O/o. Managing Director, CMFC or the concern district ED/DMWO for availing the fee coaching for the competitive examinations.

8. YOUTH AWARENESS PROGRAMS : This Corporation is implementing Youth Awareness Scheme to conduct programs on leadership, career oriented avenues and personality development for increasing the employability of Christian Youth, Under this scheme, One Day Camp on personality Development and Career Orientation at District and Divisional Level and Two Day Placment Linked Soft Skills Development programmers at regional levels are conducted.

9. ANGLO INDIAN DAY CELEBRATIONS : This corporation is sponsoring the celebrations of the Anglo India Day being conducted in the State very year.

10. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHURCH RUN INSTITUTIONS : State Govt. has issued orders for implementation of various welfare schemes for the benefit of Christian Minorities through Christian Corporation. Under this financial assistance is being released to church run hospitals, schools, orphanages, old age homes, etc.. for getting financial assistance the beneficiary institution should submit the application in the O/o DMWO. Financial Assistance will not exceed Rs. 10 Lakhs for Churches/ hospitals and Rs. 5 Lakhs for Church run Schools and orphanages, old age homes etc.

11. POST MATRIC AND PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS : The Minority Welfare Department, Govt. of Telangana State is also sanctioning Post Matric and Pre-Matric Scholarships to all the Christian Minority Students. Interested students can apply for scholarships online through the websites: <http://epasswebsite.cgg.gov.in>. <http://christianminorities.ap.in>.

VII. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, REFLECTION AND ACTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING: The Cardinal Secretary of State informs that, among the celebrations scheduled for the Year dedicated to Consecrated Life, **8 February 2015**, liturgical memory of St. Josephine Bakhita, has been proclaimed as "**World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action against Human Trafficking**".

The Holy Father, who on various occasions spoke about the new forms of slavery and dedicated to this theme the Message for the World Day of Peace 2015, has welcomed this initiative promoted by the International Unions of General Superiors. The Catholic Church, and in particular the Congregations of Women Religious, work in various countries to fight human trafficking, but a better awareness of the problem and a greater collaboration between social and religious institutions are necessary.

VIII. CONGRATS TO NEW MOTHER GENERAL SR. ANTHONY PYREDDY : I am happy to inform you the result of the election conducted in the XXV Ordinary General Chapter held from December 26th, 2014 to January 3rd, 2015, Hyderabad. Sr. Antony Pyreddy was elected as Superior General of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Anne, Phirangipuram. The following

sisters were elected as General Consultors :

Sr. Paul Tresa	-	Asst. General
Sr. Rose Pushpa	-	Consultor
Sr. Reena Jose	-	Consultor
Sr. Kulandai Tresa	-	Consultor

IX. DEANARY LEVEL MONTHLY RECOLLECTION IN FEBRUARY - 2015. The Deans are requested to kindly arrange deanary level recollection for the clergy in the 3rd week of February 2015.

X. MONTHLY RECOLLECTION FOR PRIESTS AT BISHOP'S HOUSE ON 26th MARCH, 2015. The recollection begins at 9.30 am on 26th with 2 conferences and Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction till 5.00 pm followed by Chrism Mass at 5.30 pm in the Cathedral.

XI. UNITED CHRISTIAN FORUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (UCF-HR) HAS LAUNCHED A NATIONAL TOLL FREE HELPLINE NUMBER: 1-800-208-4545.

This toll free National Helpline number (1-800-208-4545) of United Christian Forum is equipped with legal support system. Only victims of violence, intimidation, coercion and illegal confinement by criminal or political group may call and seek legal and advocacy assistance, says Mr A C Michael, former Member of Delhi Minority Commission.

After church attacks, group launches helpline

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN NEW DELHI, January 23, 2015 : In a first of its kind initiative by any religious minority group in the country, Christians' group, "following rise in targeted communal violence especially in the Capital" have launched a national helpline number to help victims of violence for their community members. The United Christian Forum for Human Rights officially launched a 24-hour national helpline recently (number 1800-208-4545) and will have lawyers and experts to assist victims of violence, intimidation, coercion and illegal confinement by any criminal or political group.

The helpline will be free of charge. Dr. John Dayal, spokesperson for the Forum, said: "This is an unprecedented coming together of all major denominational and non-denominational Christian groups, following the rise in targeted communal violence."

Source: The Hindu

XII. REGIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE

Pope Francis declared 2015 as the year of Consecrated Life. As you all are aware, It began on 30th Nov. 2014 and will end on 2nd Feb. 2016. The Joint meeting of TCBC and CRI Regional Unit in September 2014, has decided to make this a Church event in the Region. Accordingly the TCBC commission for Clergy and Religious and the Regional CRI unit has decided to organise two mega events during the year: one in Telangana and other in Andhra Pradesh to celebrate the Year.

Hence, the TCBC Commission for Clergy and Religious and Regional CRI Unit of Andhra and Telangana cordially invites you all dear Clergy, Religious and all the people of God of the twin Telugu States to join in the first mega event to Celebrate of the Year of Consecrated

Life on Sunday 1st March 2015 at St. Mary's School Grounds, Secunderabad From 9.30 am to 8.00 pm. There will be conferences, cultural programs and testimonies to speak about and illustrate the beauty of consecrated life in the church. The celebrations will come to an end with a Solemn procession from St. Mary's Basilica to the School grounds, where the Holy Eucharist will be presided over by the Archbishops and Bishops of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana at 5pm. Let us rejoice at the gift of Consecrated Life to the Church and join in making this a mega church event.

XIII. Hearty Congrats : Rev. Fr. Rachumadla Inna Reddy hails from Onteddupalli, Kurnool Diocese. He was born on 10-05-1964 to Mr. R. Joji Reddy & Mrs. Jojamma. He was brought up with Catholic devotion and discipline. He finished primary school studies at Onteddupalli, high school studies at Nellore. Then he joined Minor Seminary at Kurnool, major seminary at St. John's Regional Seminary Hyderabad. After completion of Seminary, formation, he was ordained Priest on 12th March 1990 by Thumma Bala at Fatimanagar.



Pastoral Ministry :

1990 - 91 : Assistant at St. Alphonsus High School, Karimnagar

1991 - 94 : Parish Priest at Dornakal

1994 - 98 : H.M. & Correspondent in St. Anthony's High School, LMD Colony, Karimnagar

1998 - 2002 : Pastoral Ministry at the diocese of Charleston, South Carolina, USA and Mission coordinator for the diocese of Warangal

2002 - 2006 : H.M. & Corespondent at St. John's High School & Parish Priest at Kesamudram

2006 - 2007 : Mission work in England

2007 - 2013 : H.M. & Correspondent at St. Paul's High School, Jangaon

2013-till date: Priest Incharge and H.M. & Correspondent of Bishop Thumma Bala School, Bachannapet

Qualities : He is a man of Prayer, man of Dedication, hardworking and Godfearing person. He is Pioneer of many schools, including the present school where he is working. As he celebrates his Silver Jubilee of his Priestly Ordination, we wish him hearty congratulations. May God continue to bless him and help him in his ministry.

VII. INFORMATIONS

1. Arunodaya Youth Centre celebrated its Silver Jubilee at diocesan level on January 13, 14 & 15, 2015. Youth Convention was held on this joyful occasion with about 1500 participants. Warangal Diocesan Youth Chairman, His Excellency, Most Rev. Dr. Udumala Bala, Bishop of Warangal celebrated Pontifical High Mass on January 15, 2015, along with Diocesan youth director, Rev. Fr. N. Vinod Kumar, former youth directors and other priests.

2. 100% First Class Results : I am glad to inform that the First Year D.Ed. students (2013-14) of Fatima College of Elementary Teacher Education secured 100% First Class result in their public exams. Out of these 80% passed with distinction. Congratulations to all the students, the Principal and the Staff.

VIII. BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY, 2015

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|---------|----------|---|
| 01. Sun | 7.30 am | : Fathima Cathedral: Holy Mass with First Communion and Confirmation |
| | 5.30 pm | : World Day Consecrated life: Special Mass in Cathedral |
| 02. Mon | 9.00 am | : Office |
| 03–10 | | : CCBI Meeting in Bangalore |
| 11. Wed | | : Return from CCBI, Bangalore |
| 12. Thu | 9.00 am | : Office |
| | 5.30 pm | : Rev. Fr. R. Inna 's Priestly Silver Jubilee at Bachannapet |
| 13. Fri | 11.00 am | : Catholic Women Federation Meeting, Lodi- Fathimanagar |
| | 6.00 pm | : Golden & Silver Jubilee Celebrations at St. Ann's Hospital, Fathimanagar |
| 14. Sat | 9.00 am | : Office |
| | 5.00 pm | : Bi-Decennial Annual Day of MSFS School at Korutla |
| 15. Sun | 8. 00 am | : Pastoral Visitation and Holy Mass at Jagityal |
| | 5. 30 pm | : Silver Jubilee Mass at St. Ann's Hospital, Appannapet |
| 16. Mon | 9.45 am | : Silver Jubilee of Parish & Pastoral Visitation, Kamalapuram |
| 17. Tue | | : Visitation to St. John's Regional Seminary, Hyderabad |
| 18. Wed | | : Ash Wednesday |
| 19. Thu | 10.00 am | : Chapel Blessing at Panthini, Mariapuram Parish |
| 20. Fri | 9.00 am | : Office – Day for the Consecrated |
| 21. Sat | | : Lourdunagar Feast |
| 22. Sun | 9.00 am | : Pastoral Visitation to Maheswaram and Holy Mass with First Communion & Confirmation |
| | 5. 30 pm | : Holy Mass at Indiranagar, Fathimanagar Parish |
| 23. Mon | 9.30 pm | : Pastoral Visitation to Narmetta & St Peter's Chair Feast Mass |
| 24. Tue | 9.00 am | : Office – Laity |
| 25-26 | 900 am | : APTS ARMS Meeting at Janampet |
| 26. Thu | | : Visitation to St. John's Regional Seminary, Kondadaba |
| 27. Fri | | : Visitation to St. Paul's Regional Seminary, Nuzvid |
| 28. Sat | 6.00 pm | : School Annual Day at Ranipuram |

March - 2015

01. Sun : TCBC CRI ATCRI Regional Celebration of the Year of Consecrated Life, Secundrabad
- 03-05 : TCBC Meeting at St. John's Regional seminary, Hyderabad
06. Fri 9.00 am : Office
07. Sat 9.00 am : Office- Day for the Consecrated
08. Sun : Parish Visitation
09. Mon 10.00 am : Sagarmatha Feast at Nagarjuna Sagar, Guntur Diocese
10. Tue
11. Wed
12. Thu 4.30 pm : **Fathima Feast: Procession, Holy Hour & Benediction**
8.30 pm : Cultural Programs
13. Fri 8.45 am : Catechism Prize Distribution
9.00 am : **Holy Mass: Our Lady of Fatima, Patroness of the Diocese**
14. Sat 9.00 am : Office
15. Sun
16. Mon 9.30 am : **Faith Formation program: Navya Suvartheekarana II, Action Plan for all Diocesan Priests & Heads of Institution of the Consecrated Deanery Wise:For Fathimanagar Deanery at Pastoral Center**
17. Tue 9.30 am : **For Ookal Deanery at Pastoral Centre**
18. Wed 9.30 am : **For Ghanpur Deanery at Pastoral Centre**
19. Thu 9.30 am : **For Karimnagar Deanery at Parish House**

IX. INTENTIONS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN FATIMA CATHEDRAL JANUARY, 2015

01. Thursday **Kazipet Parish**
02. Friday **Kesamudram Parish**
03. Saturday For the Govt
04. Sunday
05. Monday Kumarpally Parish
06. Tuesday For all the Religious
07. Wednesday Bishop's Intentions
08. Thursday Mahabubabad Parish
09. Friday Malkapuram Parish
10. Saturday For the Souls in Purgatory
11. Sunday
12. Monday Malkapalli Parish
13. Tuesday For all the Bishops
14. Wednesday Bishop's Intentions
15. Thursday Manthini Parish
16. Friday For child labour

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|---------------|--------------------------|
| 17. Saturday | For the Priests |
| 18. Sunday | |
| 19. Monday | Manugonda Parish |
| 20. Tuesday | For all the child labour |
| 21. Wednesday | Bishop's Intentions |
| 22. Thursday | Mariapuram Parish |
| 23. Friday | Maripeda Parish |
| 24. Saturday | For all the Drivers |
| 25. Sunday | |
| 26. Monday | Narimetta Parish |
| 27. Tuesday | For Vocations |
| 28. Wednesday | Bishop's Intentions |
| 29. Thursday | Ookal Parish |
| 30. Friday | Pasara Parish |

X. MASSES REMITTED AT BISHOP'S HOUSE

1.	29-12-2014	Subedari / Prakashreddypet	71 Masses
2.	03-01-2015	Atmakur Parish	20 Masses
3.	09-01-2015	Kazipet	80 Masses
4.	09-01-2015	ThimmaraoPET	147 Masses
5.	14-01-2015	Atmakur	27 Masses

Ordination Anniversary

Rev. Fr. Boyapati Leeno	07-02-1980
Rev. Fr. Udumala Bala	20-02-1979

Birthday Babies in February

Rev. Fr. Idara Abraham	04-02-1941
Rev. Fr. Golamari Bala Martin	08-02-1967
Rev. Fr. Singareddy Balashowreddy	14-02-1959
Rev. Fr. Arlagadda Prakash	14-02-1941
Rev. Fr. Yeruva Chinnappa	15-02-1949
Rev. Fr. Yeruva Joji	15-02-1956
Rev. Fr. Basani Prakash	20-02-1957
Rev. Fr. Devarapu Sudhakar	26-02-1973



Golden & Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Assissi Convent, Fatimanagar.



Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Arunodaya Youth Centre.



Centenary Celebrations of Peddakottala Parish, Kurnool Diocese



**Living the Message of Our Lady of Lourdes
Propagating a pure Priority of Penance, Prayer,
and Perseverance to Posterity**