



# DIOCESE OF ALLAHABAD

## Bishop's House, #32 Thornhill Road Allahabad-211 002,(U.P.) INDIA

DIOCESAN CIRCULAR NO. 07/18

October 18, 2018



**Most Rev. Raphy  
Manjaly**

### MY PROGRAMME

#### OCTOBER 2018

14-19	Diocesan Priests' Annual Retreat, Allahabad
21	Holy Mass at Don Bosco Church, Naini
23	Silver Jubilee of Religious Life, Malipur
27-28	Diocesan Bible Festival in Allahabad

#### NOVEMBER 2018

6	Journey to Rome
7-14	Preparatory Meeting of International Eucharistic Congress at Rome
16	Return to Allahabad
17	Annual Day Function at St. Mary's Convent 21, Allahabad at 10:00 a.m. & Annual Day Function at S.J.C. at 2:00 p.m. Allahabad

### My Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

Grace and peace from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

#### I. Faith – Trust in God

*Trust him when dark doubts assail thee  
Trust him when thy strength is small  
Trust him when to simply trust him  
Seems the hardest thing of all.*

*Trust him! He is ever faithful  
Trust him, for his will is best  
Trust him for the Heart of Jesus  
Is the only place of rest.*

The personal response to Christ's call has a variety of aspects. First, there is recognition that it is God who calls us, and acknowledgement that he is trustworthy and his word is true and good. This is faith. Second, there is lively confidence that in responding to him we approach one whose will it is to fulfill our needs and longings more fully than we could otherwise have imagined. This is hope. Finally, there is a fullest response, the gift to him of one's whole self, of mind and heart and strength, accepting his call to membership in God's family, to friendship with the Trinity and with human beings. This is charity or love. Faith in a comprehensive sense is the full response to the Word of God, a response lived in hope and love. In other words, faith, hope and love are interconnected even though they are distinct theological virtues.

When Mother Theresa speaks about loving trust, she has in mind a faith that is connected to hope and love.

Because of faith we believe there is a God and accept as true what God has revealed through the prophets, above all through our Lord Jesus Christ. We also accept as true all that the Catholic Church teaches us through her official teachers and through our legitimate superiors. Faith is belief in God, acceptance of his revelation, his message, his loving plans for us. Faith is a response of the whole human person to the mystery of God's graciousness and unconditional love, a love "made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:39).

18	Confirmation, Holy Communion & Parish Day at St. Patrick's Church, Allahabad
21	Mass at Sadwa Kalan, Naini
22	Biennial Meeting, Commission for Bible at Seva Kendra, Calcutta
25	Corpus Christi Celebrations at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Allahabad
26	Golden Jubilee Celebration at Hartmannanj Mission
29	Annual Day Function at St. Joseph's School, Kohdar
30	Annual Day Function at St. Thomas School, Chunar

Because of loving trust we have full confidence that God will fulfill all the promises he has made through his Son Jesus.

Mother Mary showed her complete trust in God. She was chosen to be the mother of incarnate God. But that did not make life any easier for her; on the contrary she had to suffer much. At every step she was called to exercise her loving trust in God.

Jesus too practiced loving trust in his father. He was sent to his own. But his own received him not. He had counted on the twelve to carry on his work. Therefore, he had instructed them privately, shared with them all that the Father had revealed. Yet at the time of his suffering they had run away. As he was dying on the cross, by human standards, there was nothing to hope for. Nevertheless, Jesus trusted that his Father would make everything well.

Is there anyone who deserves our trust more than the Lord? Who except the Lord is our greatest comfort? The Lord's love is limitless. Can anyone prosper without the Lord? Can anyone suffer when the Lord is near him/her? Thomas A. Kempis says: "I would rather be poor for your sake than be rich without you. I would choose to be wanderer on the face of the earth with you, rather than possess heaven without you. For where you are, there is heaven; and where you are not, there is death and hell. You are my soul's desire; for you I sigh, pray and cry. I cannot put all my trust in any mortal man to afford me help sufficient for my needs, but in you alone, O my God. You are my hope, my trust, and my strength, most faithful in all things."

Faith gives us courage to face adversities. It gives us strength to overcome sin and evil. It is child-like loving trust in God that gives us entry into the Kingdom of God (Mk 10:15). It is again by faith that God gets entry into our hearts. I end this reflection with St. Paul's prayer: "May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith; may you be rooted and founded in love" (Eph 3:17).

## II. Communio India Sunday

In my last circular I made mention of Communio India and passed on to you a copy of Cardinal Oswald Gracias' letter to me on Communio India Sunday.

1. Now please remember that this year Communio India Sunday is to be celebrated on the first Sunday of Advent.
2. Please read CCBI office bearers' circular on Communio India Sunday and explain its objectives to the people and motivate them to make it a successful campaign.
3. Please distribute envelopes to all families and encourage them to contribute towards this noble cause.
4. Please send the collected amount to the Procurator who will send it to the CCBI Secretariat. (To make things easier for you the circular from CCBI has been translated into Hindi and enclosed here in)

### III. Milestones

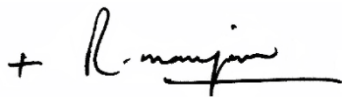
1. **Theresapur Mission** of our diocese is celebrating its centenary on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2018. Please remember everyone connected with this mission in your valuable prayers. We are grateful to the missionaries of past and present for their dedicated work and sacrifices. A special word of thanks to the members of Indian Missionary Society and Missionary Sisters of the Queen of the Apostles and our diocesan fathers who worked there.
2. **St. Joseph's Regional Seminary, Allahabad**, is celebrating its centenary in February, 2019. The Rector, Staff and Students will give you detailed information regarding the celebration. Please pray for the present and past members of the seminary community.
3. **St. Francis Xavier's Church, Ashoknagar, Kanpur**, is celebrating its Platinum Jubilee on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2018. It is indeed a proud moment for the entire parish community. As we congratulate them, we assure them of our prayers. May this year be one of special blessings and renewal for them!
4. **St. Joseph's the Worker Church, Chakeri, Kanpur**, has stepped into the Golden Jubilee Year. The Thanksgiving Mass and celebrations will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2019. May God bless St. Joseph's the Worker Church Community of Chakeri and continue to guide them in his ways!
5. **Hartmannganj Mission, Phaphamau**, is celebrating its Golden Jubilee on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018. On this auspicious occasion, we offer the Catholic Community of the mission and all those who are associated with the mission our heartiest congratulations and prayerful best wishes. Let us accompany them with our prayers in a special way during this Golden Jubilee Year.
6. **Sacerdotal Silver and Golden Jubilees: Rev. Fr. Sebastian Francis** will complete 25 years as a priest on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and **Rev. Fr. Jerome D'Souza** and **Rev. Fr. Denis D'Souza** will complete 50 years as priests on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 respectively. We congratulate and thank these jubilarians and assure them of our prayers. A diocesan level celebration will be held for all three of them on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Allahabad. All of you are cordially invited. More information will follow.
7. **Diaconate Ordination:** It gives me much joy to announce to you that the Diaconate ordination of **Bro. Anil Abrew** is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, 2018 at St. Peter's Church. Raebareli. All of you are cordially invited to the Diaconate Ceremonies. Please accompany Bro. Anil Abrew with your prayers. More specific information will be sent to you from Raebareli.

#### IV. Some Administrative Matters

1. Some years ago a booklet called “Pastoral Guidelines and Regulations for the Life and Ministry of Diocesan Priests of Allahabad Diocese” was prepared. I wish every priest of our diocese had a personal copy for easy reference. I have a few copies with me. I would offer a copy each to those priests who do not have one, beginning with the junior priests.
2. Priests who have completed five years or more are likely to be transferred. Therefore, please keep registers, books of accounts, inventory, files, property papers, etc. up-to-date. Sometime in the new year a list of records/documents/certificates to be handed over to the successor will be sent to you, even though the booklet “The Guidelines & Regulations” I mentioned above contains a good list.
3. Heads of Institutions are requested to comply with all the just and reasonable demands coming from various Government Departments and the Education Board and fulfil the legal requirements. When you are in doubt please do not act but consult knowledgeable persons. Timely action of obtaining permissions, certificates and compliance with the directives of competent authorities will save future troubles.
4. Please continue your good custom of seeking the Bishop’s consent to be absent from the diocese.
5. You have the freedom to invite any Bishop or Cardinal as Chief Guest/President of you important celebrations such as Jubilee, Centenary and Convention. But it is courtesy to consult the local bishop before doing so, all the more if the invited prelate is expected to celebrate the Holy Mass or do some spiritual ministry. Some bishops presume that the organizers have suitably informed the local bishop; some others cross check with the local bishop if the organizers have taken care of the requirements.

#### V. Grazie Mille

On the day of my patronal feast (29<sup>th</sup> of September, Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael) many of you visited me personally, some sent greetings and best wishes, and all of you prayed for me. For your love, goodwill, prayers and co-operation, dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers, I say “Thank You”.



**MOST REV. RAPHY MANJALY**  
**Bishop of Allahabad**

Enclosure: Circular from CCBI on Communio India Sunday