



DIOCESE OF ALLAHABAD

Bishop's House, #32 Thornhill Road
Allahabad-211 002, INDIA

DIOCESAN CIRCULAR NO. 03/17

April 06, 2017



Most Rev. Raphy Manjaly

MY PROGRAMME

APRIL 2017

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| 6 | Recollection, Chrim Mass, Allahabad |
| 7-8 | Triduum Retreat at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Ald |
| 9 | Palm Sunday Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Allahabad |
| 10 | Inauguration Blessing, Dedication of St. Joseph's School, Kodhar |
| 11 | Finance Committee Seminar |
| 13-15 | Holy Triduum |
| 17 | IMS Diaconate Ordination at Theresapur |
| 18-20 | Journey to Bagdogra |
| 21 | Easter Milan at Sadhana Sadon |
| 23 | Priestly Ordination of George Medapalli and Chinnappa Marsakatla at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Allahabad |
| 30 | Presides over Parish Feast at St. Joseph's Church, Chakeri |

My Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

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

I. Good Friday Meditation

I am sure a good many of you have seen Mel Gibson's film **The Passion**. It was well received by people over the world. But a few critics made adverse remarks about it. Some said that it contained too much violence and too much blood letting. Others said that Mel Gibson had exaggerated the torture of Christ. Sainly Pope John Paul II saw the film and remarked that it was very close to the original suffering or passion of Christ. The Holy Father was right. Ancient writers tell that the Roman persecution was infamous for its brutality. The scourging was a terrible ordeal. A person could easily die during the scourging. Ancient writers also tell that some times the victims of the crucifixion went insane. They go out of their mind due to the unbearable pain of crucifixion. Why did Jesus allow himself to be tortured and crucified? Why did he submit himself to such a horrendous ordeal? The first reason is that Jesus wanted his death to be a sign. **Jesus wanted his sacrifice on the cross to be a sign of God's love.** In St. John's Gospel, Ch. 15:13 Jesus says, "Greater love has no man than that a man lay down his life for his friends." The photo of the cross that adorns many a Christian home has this text on it. "I asked him how much do you love me. He said 'this much' and stretched his arms and died". **In the suffering and death of Jesus we see how much God loved us.**

Sigmund Freud used to say that we understand the make up of things best when we see them lying in pieces, shattered. In the brokenness we see the underlying structure. This is true of love. The death of Jesus enabled us to have a view of the heart of God. In St. Mathew's Gospel Ch. 27:51 says that at the moment of Jesus' death the curtain veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom. The curtain veil separated the people from seeing what went on in the holy of holies.

It represented the veil between God and ourselves. The cross of Jesus tears apart that veil and lets us see inside the holy of holies, the heart of God. And what we see there is unfathomable or immeasurable love, infinite forgiveness, compassion and tenderness beyond understanding. **From the cross God tells us, "You can do this to me, and I will still love you."**

I read about a young man who had lived a reckless life. He went against Christian faith and Gospel values. He went against his own conscience and caused much suffering to God and to his near and dear ones. He did not want to live any more. And he decided to commit suicide. Setting out to kill himself he decided first to stop in a church and say some final prayers. He entered the church and sat down. The only thing lit up in the

MAY 2017

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| 1 | Journey to Bangalore |
| 2 | Executive Meeting CCBI, Bangalore |
| 3 | Return to Allahabad |
| 14 | Ordination of Deacon Jaison Vikas Mathias at Kuntalnagar, Udupi |
| 16 | Ordination of Deacon Ivan Rodrigues at Mangalore |
| 18-29 | At Home With Loved Ones |
| 28 | Inaugural Mass, Hindi Bible Convention at Divine, Muringoor |
| 30 | Return to Bishop's House |

"If any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me". (Mk 8:34)

dark church was a crucifix on the front wall. He looked at the cross and in a moment of sheer grace understood what it meant. Here are his words: "I looked at the cross and I understood. I was in hell and God had not stopped loving me for one second. I saw that God loves me no matter what. I am not proud of what I did. And it will always be part of me. But I can live beyond it and be happy knowing God's love and strength are always with me, even when I betray him. So the cross is not only a symbol of love but also a symbol of hope. No sinner needs despair. He has a bright future, a glorious future. **The cross tells us how God loves and redeems even when we are unfaithful and our lives are broken. The cross shows us what love is, what love costs and what love does. The cross of Christ also tells us that love entails suffering.**

II. Obituary

The unexpected death of Rev. Fr. William D'Souza has left all of us sad and bereaved. It was on 20th of February that he was admitted into Nazareth Hospital after a heart attack. Although his condition was stabilized and he even had marginal improvement, his body was not strong enough to allow any surgical intervention.

He looked forward to the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of his Sacerdotal Ordination which was scheduled for the 24th of February. Though medically unfit, respecting his intense desire, and with due precautionary measures, he was allowed to participate in the Jubilee Mass of which main celebrant was Rev. Fr. Stany Wilfred D'Souza, the Silver Jubilarian.

It is amazing that Rev. Fr. William D'Souza was able to sit through the Jubilee Mass and the short felicitation ceremony. He looked fresh, happy and satisfied. The Jubilee celebration seems to have acted as tonic for him.

After his return to the hospital his condition took a turn for the worse. The infection in the lung could not be contained inspite of antibiotics. The kidneys too developed complication. Fr. William was very particular to receive Holy Communion every day. A day before his death he was able to receive the Anointing of the Sick from Fr. Vipin D'Souza in full consciousness. God relieved him of all his sorrow and pain on 8th of March at 11 a.m.

His body was laid out in Bishop's House Chapel. Priests, Religious Seminarians and candidates kept the vigil to pray for the repose of his soul.

His funeral mass, celebrated on the 9th of March at 10.00 a.m. in St. Joseph's Cathedral, was presided over by the Bishop with almost all the priests working in the diocese joining as concelebrants. Fr. Apoline Lobo and Fr. Baptist D'Souza, Fr. William D'Souza's close relatives, represented the family members. A good number of religious sisters, brothers and priests and laity, who had come from near and far, participated in the funeral service. We are grateful to them.

Fr. William D'Souza was a man of profound faith and prayerfulness. He was very close to the children, youth and elderly. People saw in him a compassionate priest who was interested in them. They appreciated his simplicity, availability, prudence, patience and pastoral zeal. He has served our diocese generously and ministered to the people living in our mission stations and parishes with great commitment. Lapta, Sultanpur, Dostpur, Theresapur, Chunar, St Patrick's, Kanpur, Renukoot, St. Joseph's Cathedral, Bishop's House, St. Xavier's, Ashoknagar, Kapoori-Meja, Hartmannanj-Phaphamau and Muirabad are the places where he touched lives of numerous people.

We thank and praise God for Fr. William D'Souza who enriched our diocese with his life and ministry. We have fond memories of time spent in his good company. Let his life and ministry continue to inspire us. Let us continue to pray for the repose of his soul. May God grant him a place among the saints and just ones in the Kingdom of Light!

III. St. Joseph's School, Kohdar

An agreement has been signed between the Diocese of Allahabad Education Society and Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited (an undertaking of NTPC) regarding running of an English Medium School at Srijan Vihar Township, Meja Thermal Power Project, P.O. Kohdar, Meja, Allahabad. The school will be known as St. Joseph's School, Kohdar. I have appointed Rev. Fr. Albert Lobo as its first Principal. The blessing and inauguration ceremony is scheduled for the 10th of April.

We are very grateful to Franciscan Sisters of Aloysius Gonzaga, particularly to Sr. A. Mary Stella FSAG, the General, who agreed to open a second convent of theirs in our diocese and sent four sisters to collaborate with us in the mission at Kohdar. We warmly welcome Srs. Leema, Aloysius, Joshiba and Jenet to our diocese and wish them happy and fruitful ministry at Kohdar.

IV. School for the Visually Challenged

The project, School for the Visually Challenged, is making steady progress. Sr. M. Annie D'Souza, SRA (Provincial Animator) has received the go ahead message from the Superior General, Sr. Nanditha Pereira, SRA, to undertake this project in collaboration with the Diocese of Allahabad. Three SRA sisters will come to stay at Sadhana Sadan on the 31st of May, 2017 to do the preparatory work. The enrollment of visually challenged children for the school will begin after their arrival. The inaugural function will be in July 2017. More updates will be given to you later. We thank Missionary Sisters of the queen of the Apostles (SRA) for their good will and generosity.

V. Sacred Heart Kids

Permission has been granted to Fr. J.B. Fernandes to start a play school at OBRA in the renovated old presbytery. The inauguration is slated for the 10th of April 2017. We wish Fr. J.B. and Sacred Heart Play School all the best.

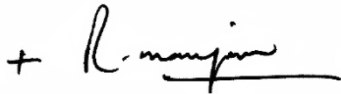
VI. Transfers and Appointments

I am happy to publish transfers and appointments of our priests which come into effect from the 1st of May, 2017. Please take over/handover charge on a mutually acceptable date, not later than June 30, 2017.

Transfer is part of our life and ministry as Priests and Religious. Every transfer is an actualization of the mission or mandate we have received from the Lord at our ordination or profession to carry his Good News to whichever place or ministry one is assigned. The joyful acceptance of any transfer brings along with it God's special graces. Understood in the correct sense, every transfer is not a mere administrative shifting exercise but a purposeful intervention in the life of the one who is sent and to whom he/she is sent.

When a Priest is transferred, he should leave his place for his successor in a way that he expects to find his new place. It is essential to keep in mind that our mission is one, that our successors should not have any difficulty because of our carelessness or negligence.

Hence the need to keep the **Parish registers, account books, the stock register and various other files** up to date. There should be no undeclared pending bills, no unauthorized loans, no unjustifiable deficit, for the next Priest to take care of. Likewise, all almirahs and rooms in the house should be put in order. If in any presbytery, almirahs are full of things and nobody knows whose they are, the Superior should presume that they belong to the mission station and put them in the right place.



MOST REV. RAPHY MANJALY
Bishop of Allahabad

Enclosure: List of Transfers and Appointments

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ALLAHABAD PVT LTD

BISHOP'S HOUSE, 32 THORNHILL ROAD, ALLAHABAD

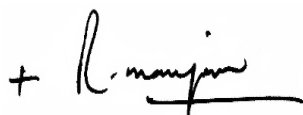
06.04.2017

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

I am happy to send the list of transfers and appointments which will come into effect from 01 May 2017.

LIST OF TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS: 2017

| S. No | Name | From | To | Designation |
|-------|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Rev. Dn. Vikas Jason Mathias | (New Priest) | St. Joseph the Worker Church, Chakeri, Kanpur | Asst. Parish Priest |
| 2 | Rev. Dn. Chinnappa Marsekatla | (New Priest) | Krist Jyoti, Asnabandh | Asst. Parish Priest |
| 3 | Rev. Dn. George Medepalli | (New Priest) | Assumption Church, Dostpur | Asst. Parish Priest |
| 4 | Rev. Fr. Joy Rodrigues | Assumption Church, Dostpur | St. Patrick's Church, Allahabad | Asst. Parish Priest |
| 5 | Rev. Fr. Stephen D'Mello | One year Ashram Experience | St. Mary's Church, Muirabad | Parish Priest |
| 6 | Rev. Fr. George Madathikudiyil | Medical Leave | St. Xavier's Church, Ashoknagar, Kanpur | Head Master & Asst. Parish Priest |
| 7 | Rev. Fr. Anand John | St. Xavier's Church, Ashoknagar, Kanpur | Divine Providence School Raebareli | Head Master |
| 8 | Rev. Fr. George Rodrigues | Divine Providence School Raebareli | St. John's Church & School, Fathepur | Parish Priest & Manager |
| 9 | Rev. Fr. Titus Lobo | St. John's Church & School, Fathepur | St. Joseph's College, Allahabad | Head Master |
| 10 | Rev. Fr. Albert Lobo | St. Joseph's College, Allahabad | St. Joseph's School, NTPC, Meja | Principal |
| 11 | Rev. Fr. James Francis | — | Lourde Church, Renukoot | Parish Priest |
| 12 | Rev. Fr. Joseph Mascarenhas | St. Mary's Church, Muirabad | Bishop's House | Convalescing Member, Bishop's House |



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