



FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Greetings from Mallige Mane

As we prepare during this Easter Season for the great feast of the Pentecost, I pray to the Father to send on each one of you His Holy Spirit so that you may be strengthened in faith and share abundantly in the life that His Risen Son brings. Without the Holy Spirit our Christian life is hollow. Without the Holy Spirit our Liturgy is a mere stage performance. Without the Holy Spirit Christian morality becomes a big burden and Christian authority becomes tyranny. But, with the Holy Spirit everything in our life as Christians becomes meaningful, beautiful and powerful. Therefore, let us pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit for ourselves, for our families, our parishes, our diocese and indeed for the whole Church.

We are in the month of May, a month specially dedicated to Mother Mary. She, who gathered the first community of believers around her and led them in intense prayer while waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit will certainly be with us now as we too spend these days intensely invoking the gift of the Spirit. I encourage our parishes and institutions to hold May Devotions fervently, devoutly and meaningfully.

Many of you have been kind enough to send your greetings and assurances of prayers on the fifth anniversary of my assuming the pastoral leadership of this diocese. Thank you. I must say that these five years have been a time of learning and listening, of discovery and joy. The wonderful cooperation and loyalty of the clergy, the religious and the laity have been for me a source of great consolation and strength. Thank you once again.

The PUC and SSLC results are out and many of our educational institutions have notched up significant achievements. Congratulations! Please keep the good work. Those who have been less fortunate as far as results are concerned need not lose heart. Instead redouble your efforts to focus on slow learners right from the beginning of the academic year and you will see your hard work will pay off.

This is also the season of transfers and new appointments. Some Religious who have served in the diocese for a time are now called away. They deserve a big thank you from all of us. Some will have been assigned to work in this diocese. A warm welcome to all of them. There will always be some pain and uncertainty in every shift in location, residence and assignment. That is part of life for us who have given ourselves totally to the Lord's service without any conditions. There are always inspiring and consoling examples of men and women who accept to move anywhere at any time for any work with tremendous freedom, great docility, and admirable apostolic availability.

In order to ensure that all changes of personnel are smooth and serene, we need to keep all our books and accounts in order and hand them over to our successors in good condition. Also to avoid all unnecessary tensions and misunderstandings among us, we need to transcend every kind of nostalgic attachment to our earlier place and position, and avoid going to the former place unnecessarily and too often, much less, interfering in the internal matters of that place. Any negative criticism of our predecessors and successors is highly damaging to the unity of Presbyterium. If you find something seriously amiss anywhere kindly bring it to my notice but do not gossip about it. Always be positive wherever you go. Get to know the people. Let them know that you care. Visit families. Befriend the youth. Be a real father to all.

One of the most effective means of sending your pastoral and affective roots deep among your people, so that the shepherd bears the smell of the sheep, is the beautiful tradition of House Blessing. Do not delegate this to others. Do it by yourselves, however long or tedious and tiresome it may be. It is an ideal way of cementing the bond between the shepherd and the flock. And do not turn the ceremony of house blessing into a routine, hurriedly accomplished drudgery. Make it a spiritually uplifting experience for the family and for yourself. Remember, blessing of houses is not blessing walls and roofs. It is blessing families, living souls, your flock.

Our hearts go out to the people of Sri Lanka where hundreds were brutally cut down by suicide bombers in Churches and other places. May the Risen Lord bring solace and peace to the wounded and the bereaved, and radical conversion of the heart to the dark forces behind these dastardly deeds.

The General Elections are still in progress in some parts of the country even though they are over in Karnataka. We are waiting with bated breath for the results. Whoever comes to power, may it be a blessing to our people, especially the deprived, dispossessed and the disadvantaged.

Let me once again assure you of my prayerful support and pastoral solicitude.

Devotedly yours in Christ

✠Francis Serrao SJ
Bishop of Shimoga

VISITATION OF OUR LADY

This is an important mystery in the life of Our Lady and also in the rosary. The young maiden of Nazareth, after her mystical experience of the Annunciation, does not shut herself in a cloister, but, as the Gospel says sets forth without any delay to reach out to Elizabeth in her hour of need. Visitation is the fruit and authentication of Annunciation. Our spiritual experience will be genuine only if it yields forth abundant fruits of charity. As Pope Francis says in his recent document on Call to Holiness, all spiritual experience needs to have a close connection with works of mercy and charity. That is what we learn from the Visitation. Also all our work and our entire ministry must be a fruit of deep spirituality.

ASCENSION

Going beyond the literary form of the Gospel narrative on the Ascension of our Lord what we learn as the main message is that Jesus has gone before us to prepare a place for us and that we will merit heaven only if in this life we keep our focus firmly fixed on the things of heaven even as we are immersed in the preoccupations of this earth. That is, we have to be contemplatives in action.

PENTECOST

The great feast of Pentecost is said to be the day when the Church was born, when the little community of believers, gathered in prayer around Mary the Mother of Jesus, received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and were immediately transformed into courageous and prophetic witnesses of the Good News. We too need to be empowered, energized and enthused by the Holy Spirit, if we, in our days, have to bear witness to the Gospel amid the vagaries and vicissitudes of life.

TRINITY SUNDAY

We cannot fully comprehend the Mystery of the Trinity. We remember the episode of the great doctor of the Church Augustine, being confronted by a toddler. But what we can understand on this feast is that our God is a personal God, a God of love and life. A God who deeply cares for each one of us. He is Father who gives life. He is Son who saves us. And He is Holy Spirit who guides us to our destination. As love, God gives life, nurtures life and heals life. He is God for us, God with us and God in us.

BIRTH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

The Church celebrates with great solemnity the memory of the Great Precursor who lived by the life principle: "He must increase and I must decrease". St Paul would say the same later in his celebrated words: "I want to die and be dissolved into Christ". What this means is that we are called to live our lives in such a way that little by little by the working of the Holy Spirit deep within us, our ego dies and we become more and more icons of Christ, so that, in the words of Cardinal John Henry Newman we can say: "People looking at me no longer see me but see Jesus in me". This should be true of every Christian and every consecrated person, most of all of a pastor.

CORPUS CHRISTI

One of the most important ways in which God our Father nourishes and nurtures us is through the Holy Eucharist. The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ highlights this fundamental truth of our faith. This is an occasion for us to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the greatest gift that God could ever give us – His only Son Jesus in the Eucharist to be our food and our drink, so that consuming Him, absorbing Him, assimilating Him, we may become one flesh with Him. The amazement and awe that this mystery of communion strikes in us leads to silent adoration and abiding gratitude. In this mood of adoration and worship we become more than ever convinced that we have a faithful friend and constant companion in the tabernacle who continuously reassures us that He will be always with us and will never abandon us; that we can always take refuge in Him in times of distress and difficulty; that He is there ready to take away our burdens and ease our struggles. In our loneliness and weakness, trials and temptations, fatigue and fears, we can silently sit in His Eucharistic presence and just relax at the end of a busy, noisy and weary day, like John the beloved disciple at the Last Supper resting his head on the Lord's heart is such a wonderful, healing and strengthening experience. Pope John Paul II, both in *Pastores Dabo Vobis* and *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, waxes eloquent on this theme especially referring to the pastoral clergy in lonely locations and distant destinations. Let us make it a habit to rest, relax and renew ourselves in the rejuvenating presence of the Eucharistic Lord.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Our diocese and our Cathedral are under the special patronage and protection of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. As such, we in this diocese are particularly privileged to take refuge in and be nourished by the blood and water streaming from the wounded side of the crucified Christ, as Pope Benedict XVI invited all Christians to do in his beautiful encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*. The more we do this the more we become transformed into Christ and thus in our turn become mediators of God's love and mercy, forgiveness and healing, reconciliation and harmony. Indeed, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us once again that the heart of the Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God as our loving and merciful Father. Our ministry as the Shepherds of the Lord's flock is mainly to go in search of those who are lost, bring back home those who have gone astray, bind up the wounds of those who are hurt, strengthen the weak and lead all along the path to the fullness of life, by telling them in the celebrated words of Pope Pius XII, who, harking back to Prophet Isaiah, had said in his encyclical *Haurietis Aquas*: "You will draw waters joyfully from the springs of salvation", Therefore let us, together with our people, daily pray: "Within your wounds hide me", and celebrate this feast with special solemnity and devotion.

On Friday, 28 June, we will be having a Solemn Mass at 6.00 pm at the Cathedral Church preceded by the Rosary prayer at 5.30 pm. All priests and Religious are invited for the Eucharistic Celebration and thereafter for dinner in the Presbytery. Please inform in good time about the number joining the dinner to the Procurator of the Diocese **before 15 June**.

SS PETER AND PAUL

The Church, right from its very origin in the little community of believers at Pentecost, has looked upon Saints Peter and Paul as two sturdy, unbending, unbreakable, unvanquished pillars of the Church, so different in temperament and background, theological orientation and pastoral bent, but always twinned together in the historical memory and devotional imagination of Christianity. As I have said earlier, Peter the poor, illiterate fisherman, with impulsive personality and

Paul the sophisticated, educated and well to do Pharisee with an intellectual bent and rational way of being had close encounters with the Risen Lord and with each other. Peter represents the stability, tradition and institutional authority of the Church while Paul represents its missionary dynamism, apostolic innovation and charismatic creativity. Both, together, stand for the one, true, holy, catholic and apostolic Church under the Bishop of Rome, chosen to preside in charity over the communion of all Churches. Both, together, give us a fine example of what it means to love Christ, to surrender ourselves to Him and to commit ourselves to His service even unto death. Let us draw our inspiration from these two great stalwarts in our own struggle to be faithful, loyal and dedicated servants of the Lord's Mission.

LETTER FROM PMO

08 April 2019
Ref.No.PMO-191/2019

Most Rev. Francis Serrao, SJ
Bishop of Shimoga, Bishop's House
Malligenahalli, Sagar Road
Shimoga 577 205

Your Excellency,

Warm greetings from the Pontifical Mission Organizations, Bangalore.

It is my joy and a desire to address you personally and express my appreciation to you.

Well, it is about 7 months now, I am in office and I can experience the efforts you have made and the co-operation and support you have extended to me and the staff of PMO.

Besides your various activities of Evangelization, it is amazing that your efforts have been richly rewarded with the collections you have made towards the Universal Solidarity Fund.

I offer my grateful thanks to your Excellency, Diocesan Director, Parish Priests, Parishioners, Religious, Seminarians, Pious Associations, Various movements, Catechists, Youth, Children, Missionary Childhood... etc., under your care.

As you know our Holy Father has announced the coming October as the Extraordinary Missionary

Month under the theme "Baptized and Sent"- The Church of Christ on Mission in the world.

Kindly plan the forth coming October with special programs at the Diocesan, Vicariate and Parish levels with your official pastoral letter.

Please do promote Missionary zeal among children through Holy Childhood Associations and St Peter the Apostle among the youth, seminarians, catechists, religious and priests.

Before I conclude, I send my humble prayers for a fruitful Holy week.

Requesting your blessing and prayer,

Rejoice ! He is Risen!

Have a blessed Happy Easter!

Walking with Jesus is a way forward for the Church (Pope Francis)

I remain

Fr Ambrose Pitchaimuthu
PMO, National Director

SSLC & PUC RESULTS 2018-19
Results of the Diocesan Schools & College

SSLC

SN	INSTITUTIONS	%
1.	St Anthony's High School, Hosadurga	100
2.	Infant Jesus High School, Challakere	98
3.	Loyola High School, Shimoga	98
4.	Assumption (E) High School, Hiriyyur	84
5.	Assumption (K) High School, Hiriyyur	75
6.	Sacred Heart High School, Shimoga	94
7.	Deepika, Molakalmuru	95
8.	Lourdes Boys' High School, Davanagere	78.46
9.	Maira Nivas High School, Harihar	96
10.	Pushpa (E) High School, Shikaripura	92

PUC

1.	Sacred Heart PU College	92.03
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Institute Run by the Religious
SSLC

SN	INSTITUTIONS	%
1.	Amarjyothi (E) High School, Sorab	85
2.	Don Bosco (E) High School, Chithradurga	91
3.	Don Bosco (K) High School, Chithradurga	85
4.	Holy Redeemer (E) High School, Hosanagar	95
5.	Holy Redeemer (K) High School, Hosanagar	80
6.	Mary Immaculate Girls' High School, Shimoga	98
7.	Navachethana (E) High School, Channagiri	98
8.	Nirmala Girls' High School, Sagar	95.45
9.	St Ann's (E) High School, Hiriyyur	100

10.St Charles (E) High School, New Town	96
11.St Charles (K) High School, New Town	98
12.St Dominic's High School, Karehalli	100
13.St Joseph's Girls' High School, Chithradurga	98
14.St Joseph's (E) High School, Sagar	98
15.St Mary's Convent (E) High School, Harihar	100
16.St Mary's Convent (K)High School, Harihar	97
17.St Mary's (E) High School, Thirthahalli	100
18.St Paul's Convent High School, Davanagere	97
19.St Paul's Convent (K) High School, Davanagere	89

PUC

1.Amarjyothi Composite PU College, Sorab	82
2.Don Bosco PU College, Chithradurga	88
3.Holy Redeemer C PU College, Hosanagar	100
4.Mary Immaculate Girls' CPU College, Shimoga	92
5.St Aloysius PU College, Harihar	92
6.St Charles Composite PU College, New Town	70
7.St Joseph's Girl's PU College, Chithradurga	78
8.St Paul's Girl's PU College, Davanagere	80

In general the results this year are very encouraging. Congrats and thanks to Managers, HM's/Principals, and the students. We can do better still in the coming academic year.

ANNOUNCEMENT**NEW BISHOP FOR BELGAUM DIOCESE**

Easter season has brought us the joyful news of the appointment of **Bishop Derek Fernandes** of Karwar as the Bishop of Belgaum to which Diocese he initially belonged. On behalf of the Clergy and the Faithful of our Diocese I wish him much success in his Pastoral Leadership of his new Diocese and assure him that we will always accompany him with our prayers.

DEACONS FOR THE DIOCESE:

Another piece of good news for our Diocese is the ordination to the Diaconate of Bro. Paul Crasta and Bro. Joy Jolson Andrade on Sunday, 26 May 2019 at 5.30 pm in the Shrine of our Lady of Health, Harihar. All are welcome.

SEMINAR ON RECONCILIATION:

In view of the Year of Reconciliation a one-day seminar has been arranged for the Diocesan Clergy and Men Religious at Chaitanya on 14 May from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. The Women Religious will have the same seminar in Chaitanya on 15 May from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. I would ask everyone to actively participate in the seminar.

FRESH CANDIDATES:

Yet another piece of good news is the admission of three candidates to the Minor Seminary. They are:

- Gerlad Ruben Machado: Sagar Parish
- Angelo Olivera: Hiriyur Parish
- Manoj P: Molakalmuru Mission Centre

The Diocese and myself personally are grateful to Fr Pius D'Souza, the Vocation Promoter and the respective Parish Priests for their hard work.

NEW VENTURE: APOSTOLIC SCHOOL:

Villa Vianney is going to be the Apostolic School for the Diocese and will receive boys studying in the High School classes who have inclination to the priesthood. Inaugural Mass at 11.30 am on Thursday, 30 May 2019 at Villa Vianney, which will henceforth be called Vianney Apostolic School. All are welcome.

ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS IGNATIUS

PINTO: Our prayerful support is needed by Archbishop Emeritus Ignatius Pinto, the first Bishop of our Diocese, who is mostly room-bound although he is mentally very alert and sharp in memory, able to remember people, places and ministries in our Diocese.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

The meeting of the Diocesan Senate will be held at 10.00 am on Tuesday 18 June 2019 in Mallige Mane. And DPC will meet at 10.00 am on Wednesday 05 June 2019 in Chaitanya. Details will be sent later.

BEYOND THE SHORES

Mr Daniel Crasta, (80), father of Rev. Sr Jyothi Priya, AC, Sharavathinagar community, passed away on 24 March 2019. Funeral took place on 25 March 2019 at Narampady Parish.

Mr Rosario Rodrigues, brother-in-law of Fr Simon Pinto, was called to his eternal reward on 16 April 2019. Funeral took place on 17 April 2019 at Siddapur Parish.

Mrs Magdalene Fernandes, (87), mother of Fr Francis Fernandes passed away on 07 May 2019. Funeral took place on 08 May 2019 at Jogfalls Parish.

The Diocese of Shimoga offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families while assuring our prayers for the dear departed. RIP

TRANSFERS/APPOINTMENTS - 2019

Sl. No	Names	To	Designation	W.E.F
1.	Fr Ronald D'Cunha	Mallige Mane	Procurator	10.06.2019
2.	Fr Stany D'Souza		Consultor	01.06.2019
3.	Fr Jerome Moras OCD		Consultor	01.06.2019
4.	Fr Venus Praveen Colaco	Mavinakere	Mission Director	25.05.2019
5.	Fr Minin Almeida	Anandapura	Parish Priest	26.05.2019
6.	Fr David Dellario	Nagar	Parish Priest	26.05.2019
7.	Fr Santhosh Pereira	Hiriyur, Bhadravathi	Director, Vianney Apostolic School	27.05.2019
8.	Fr Richard Pais	Kable	Parish Priest	09.06.2019
9.	Fr Biju Thomas	Judicial Vicar	Judicial Tribunal (Residence: Sharavathinagar)	31.05.2019
10.	Fr Alwyn Serrao	Defender of Bond (additional)	Judicial Tribunal	01.06.2019
11.	Fr Denis Mathias	Bombay Archdiocese	Judicial Tribunal	01.06.2019
12.	Fr Lawrence D'Souza	Shimoga	HM Sacred Heart & Loyola Schools	08.05.2019
13.	Fr Nelson D'Souza	Hiriyur	Asst. Parish Priest & HS Staff	20.05.2019
14.	Fr Stany D'Cunha	Udupi Diocese	Education Ministry	25.05.2019
15.	Fr Abhishek Joseph MSFS	Harihar	Asst. Parish Priest	16.05.2019
16.	Fr Bala Raju SMM	Cathedral	Asst. Parish Priest	15.05.2019
17.	Fr D. Robert MSFS	Thandagunda	Mission Director	12.05.2019
18.	Fr Lurdhu Swamy CMF	Honnali	Mission Director	02.06.2019
19.	Fr Ronald Veigas		Dean, Vianney Deanery	01.06.2019
20.	Bro. Kanikyaswamy Vijay Kumar	Mallige Mane	Asst. Administrator	01.06.2019
21.	Bro. Nishanth Antony D'Costa	JDV, Pune	Philosophy	01.06.2019
22.	Bro. Vinuth Balu Kumar	Chaitanya	Regency	28.05.2019
23.	Brother From Mysore Diocese	Shikaripura	Regency	

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME**MAY**

- 05 : Confirmations at Kargal
- 06 : 5.30 pm: Golden Jubilee Mass of Sr Henrita AC, Sharavathinagar
- 07 : CCBI Executive Committee meeting, B'luru
- 08 : Mass, Parish Feast, Thandagunda
- 10 : Admissions to Minor Seminary, MM
- 12 : Confirmations, Cathedral Church, Shimoga
- 14 : Seminar for Priests on Reconciliation, Chaitanya
- 15 : Seminar for Rel. Women on Reconciliation, Chaitanya
- 17 : Priestly Ordination, Mangaluru
- 18 : 10.30 am: Golden Jubilee of Sr Irene D'Silva, Hosanagar
- 19 : Confirmations Mass at Davangere Church
- 24 : House Warming Ceremony, Sampige
- 25 : First Profession, LSP, Bengaluru
- 26 : 10.00 am: Confirmations Mass, Malur Church
5.30 pm: Diaconate Ordination, Bros Paul Crasta and Joy Andrade
- 28 : Teachers' Training, Chitradurga
- 30 : Blessing & Inauguration, Apostolic House, Hiriyyur-Bhadravathi

JUNE

- 05 : DPC meeting, Chaitanya
- 09 : Confirmations Mass, Kable
- 10 : DFC meeting, Tudur Farm
- 13 : Mass, Annual Feast, Karehalli
- 15 : Vocation Promotion (CCBI) Seminar, NBCLC
- 16 : Mass, Madivala Church, Bengaluru
- 19 : Belgaum
- 21 : MASS, MAGIS Programme, SAC, Harihar
- 23 : Mass, Borimar Church
- 26 : Annual Feast, Mass, Hosadurga
- 28 : Feast of Sacred Heart, Mass, Cathedral
- 30 : Seminar on Religious Leadership, UFS, Mysuru

BIRTHDAYS**MAY**

- 06 Sr Rosita Thomas SCCG
- 06 Sr Elize Lurdu SCB
- 08 Sr Molly Thomas BS
- 09 Fr Varghese Pallipuram SDB
- 09 Br Clement Paul D'Souza OFM Cap
- 10 Fr Jacob C, OCD
- 12 Fr Stany D'Cunha
- 12 Fr Alphonse Lobo
- 12 Sr Celia UMI
- 12 Sr Albina CSST
- 14 Bishop Derek Fernandes**
- 16 Br Suprith Steven
- 16 Fr Prakash Pinto OFM Cap
- 18 Archbishop Ignatius Pinto**
- 19 Sr Reshma D'Souza SRA
- 19 Sr Harshitha Crasta SRA
- 20 Sr Irene Lewis SCB
- 20 Sr Lydia CIC
- 22 Sr Lilly D'Souza UFS
- 25 Sr Alodia MC
- 25 Fr Paul G. D'Cunha
- 25 Br Yesudas Prajwal
- 26 Sr Luciana Thomman SCCG
- 26 Archbishop Peter Machado**
- 27 Sr Clemency BS
- 27 Sr Samantha CSST
- 27 Sr Petronilla CSST
- 28 Br Melroy D'Silva

BIRTHDAYS**JUNE**

01 Sr Rakshitha CSST
 02 Sr Pushpa Rani SAB
 03 Fr Denis Mathias
 04 Sr Christine CSJC
 05 Sr Luciana Fernandes SCB
 06 Sr Usha SCB
 06 Sr Jyothi SRA
 06 Sr Mable D'Silva SCB
 06 Sr Leema FSI
 06 Fr Pradeep Mangali OFM Cap
 07 Sr Sonia Pinto SJT
 07 Fr Jacob M.J
 08 Fr Arogya Raj SDB
 11 Sr Jennifer FDM
 12 Geetha Rufina UFS
 13 Sr Abhilasha SCB
 14 Sr Lucy Mascarenhas SCB
 14 Sr Anitha Wilma Pais UFS
 14 Sr Leema Angela CSST
 16 Sr Antony Mary SCB
 17 Fr Stany D'Souza
 17 Sr Kanakalata AASC
 17 Sr Mary Michael AASC
 18 Sr Stella Augustine SCB
 18 Sr Sujatha Shantha FMM
 19 Fr Nelson D'Souza
 20 Sr Lucy Pais SCB
 21 Sr Marcia CSST
22 Archbishop Alphonsus Sequeira
23 Bishop John Baptist Sequeira
 24 Fr J.B. Castelino

24 Sr Pavithra SJT
 25 Sr Jyothi D'Souza UMI
 25 Br Nishanth Anthony D'Costa
 26 Sr Juvanna D'Souza UFS
 27 Sr Noel SRA
 27 Sr Prabha Xess SCB
 28 Sr Antony Mary SCB
 29 Sr Melania D'Sa SCCG

JULY

02 Fr Mark P. D'Silva
 04 Sr Jenifer Nirmala CIC
 05 Br Stanley David
 06 Sr Soji UMI

