

Ubi Deus, Ibi Spes  
 ுபு தேவ, இது அநீது  
 Is 40:31; Rom 8:5



## THE BARODA DIOCESE NEWSLETTER

For Private Circulation only

APRIL 2025

Pilgrims of Hope  
 2025



### ST FAUSTINA MERCY IN THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Daughter, when you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and enobles it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the



confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy. Tell souls that from this fount of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to my Generosity. Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask. I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion St. Faustina

### PRAYER INTENTIONS OF THE POPE APRIL

#### FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

#### MAY

#### FOR THE USE OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

## JUBILEE YEAR - SYNODAL MUSINGS

*We are an Easter people living in a Good Friday world.* (Barbara Johnson)  
 +Seby Mascarenhas sfx

### EASTER & GOOD FRIDAY

The Sun Rises as the Smoke Spews  
 at Kakrapar Atomic Power Plant (Dawn, 22.03.2025)



Think of everything you've ever experienced that was painful;  
 that's the meaning of Good Friday.

Think of all the ways that love ultimately healed your heart;  
 that's the meaning of Easter.

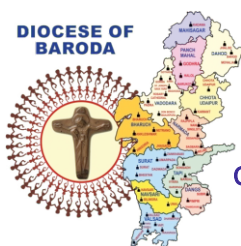
Marianne Williamson

As I drove past the Kakrapar Atomic Power Plant in the early hours of the twenty second of March on my way to Subir, I was fascinated by the sun rising as the smoke spewed from the Power Plant. I waited for a while to get a picture and I could not but reflect on the powerful significance of the stunning scene before me. Simplistic, childish and yet so deeply symbolic

The sun rises metronomically over everything: the good, the bad, the ugly. It is constant, it is steady, it makes no differences, it shines equally over everything. The contrast is as per the receiver. The various hues and colours that we see are the reception through the various shades of dust and matter and moisture.

The unconditional love of God is the Sun, the Hope, the UnWavering Faith we have. It is this Hope that drives us on. God is always present in the shades, the moistures, the dust that are symbols for the Good Friday experiences in our lives. As leaders of the community, it is our HOPE filled lives and witness that should give HOPE to our people as well. A speech or a rant can be a seed for an avalanche for hate; being wise as snakes and gentle as doves, our faith never wavers. It is the sun that rises despite the smoke spewed around. It is Easter.

Amazingly in two three big interactions with lay people, when they were asked whether they felt challenged, they said yes; When asked whether they were frightened, they said no. Good Fridays are assurances of Easter.



## OFFICIAL APRIL 2025

### COMMITMENTS OF THE BISHOP APRIL MAY 2025

- 10 Apr **CHRISM MASS –PAN DIOCESAN EVENT**  
 13 Apr Palm Sunday - Infant Jesus  
 17 Apr Maundy Thursday – Don Bosco  
 18 Apr Good Friday - St Joseph  
**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION**  
 20 Apr Easter Sunday - Rosary Cathedral  
 Sacred Heart – Sama  
 27 Apr Divine Mercy - Umbergam  
 28 - 6 May Goa  
 11 May Confirmation in Don Bosco Makarpura  
 24 May Jubilee Celebrations – RMI Sisters  
 26-28 Bible Convention, Dabwali  
 31 May Conferral of Acolyte Ministry

### ORDINATIONS

- |            |                        |
|------------|------------------------|
| 28-04-2006 | Fr. Anthony Swamy      |
| 29-04-1995 | Fr. Macwan Vincent     |
| 29-04-2021 | Fr. Ohariya Anand      |
| 30-04-2008 | Fr. Lobo Vincent       |
| 30-04-2011 | Fr. John Raju          |
| 01-05-2008 | Fr. D'Souza Mark       |
| 01-05-2014 | Fr. Praveen Vasava     |
| 03-05-196  | Fr. Fernandes Malcolm  |
| 04-05-2023 | Fr. Bhushan Bara       |
| 05-05-1985 | Fr. Fonseca Albert     |
| 05-05-2008 | Fr. Savri Muthu Peter  |
| 07-05-1994 | Fr. Randive Francis    |
| 08-05-2007 | Fr. Xalxo Abhay        |
| 09-05-2008 | Fr. Toppo John         |
| 11-05-2017 | Fr. Antony SushilKumar |

### PLEASE PRAY

### BIRTHDAYS

- |            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| 01-04-1980 | Fr. John Raju        |
| 11-04-1969 | Fr. Fernandes Duarte |
| 11-04-1988 | Fr. Vasava Kaushik   |
| 25-04-1974 | Fr. D'Souza Mark     |
| 27-04-1974 | Fr. Praveen Viegas   |
| 03-05-1970 | Fr. Macwan Rakesh    |
| 05-05-1984 | Fr. Jesu Raj         |
| 11-05-1977 | Fr. Borsa Navsa      |
| 27-05-1965 | Fr. Carvalho William |

### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 17-04-2021 | Fr. Paul Raj Napoleon |
| 25-04-2021 | Fr. Barreto Oscar     |

### ORDINATIONS

- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 06-04-2013 | Fr. Ravi Kumar        |
| 10-04-1988 | Fr. Pais Joel R.      |
| 12-04-2012 | Fr. Bijendra James    |
| 16-04-2010 | Fr. Borsa Navsa       |
| 17-04-1979 | Fr. Macwan Jayanti    |
| 17-04-1994 | Fr. Machado Robert    |
| 21-04-2009 | Fr. Brijendra Kumar   |
| 21-04-2018 | Fr. Balu Madhanu      |
| 21-04-2018 | Fr. Vasava Kaushik    |
| 23-04-1989 | Fr. Vasava Kanti      |
| 23-04-2022 | Fr. Anish Devasia     |
| 24-04-1988 | Fr. Lemos Saby        |
| 25-04-1993 | Fr. Macwan Manu       |
| 27-04-2002 | Fr. Macwan Rakesh     |
| 27-04-2005 | Fr. Praveen Viegas    |
| 28-04-1973 | Fr. Fernandes Joao M. |
| 28-04-2005 | Fr. Paul D'Silva      |

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE WAY OF THE CROSS IN ROME

Lord Jesus, help us to see in your Cross all the crosses of the world:

The cross of those who hunger for bread and for love;

The cross of those who are alone or abandoned even by their own children and family members;

The cross of those who thirst for justice and peace;

The cross of those who do not have the comfort of the faith;

The cross of the **elderly** who are bowed down under the weight of years and loneliness;

The cross of **migrants** who find doors closed because of fear, and hearts sealed by political calculations;

The cross of **the little ones**, wounded in their innocence and purity;

The cross of **humanity** that wanders in the darkness of uncertainty and in the darkness of the culture of the fleeting moment;

The cross of **families** broken by betrayal, by the seductions of the evil one or by murderous lightness and by selfishness;

The cross of **consecrated persons** who tirelessly seek to bring your light into the world and feel rejected, mocked and humiliated;

The cross of **consecrated persons** who, along the way, have forgotten their first love;

The cross of **your children** who, believing in you and trying to live according to your word, find themselves marginalized and discarded even by their families and their peers;

The cross of **our weaknesses**, our hypocrisies, our betrayals, our sins and our many broken promises;

The cross of **your Church** which, faithful to your Gospel, struggles to carry your love even among the baptized themselves;

The cross of **the Church**, your bride, who feels continually attacked from within and from without;

The cross of **our common home** that withers seriously before our selfish eyes that are blinded by greed and power.

Lord Jesus, rekindle in us the hope of the resurrection and of your definitive victory against all evil



# SYNODALITY & THE JUBILEE YEAR

## IMPLEMENTATION OF SYNODALITY

Select texts from the Letter of Cardinal Mario Grech

Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the Synod has sent a letter for the Implementation phase of the Synod. I am quoting extracts below.

- Each diocese must form an Implementation Team and upload the names directly to the Secretariat in Rome.
- At a meeting of the Consultors and Deans of our Diocese, held in Ankleshwar, a team consisting of representatives of every Deanery (Laity, Religious and Clergy) was proposed.
- As per the schedule of the Implementation proposed by Rome, guidelines will be sent by Rome in May

### LETTER ON THE ACCOMPANIMENT PROCESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE OF THE SYNOD

- **MARCH 2025:** announcement of the accompaniment and evaluation process;
- **MAY 2025:** publication of the **Support Document** for the implementation phase, **with guidelines for its conduct**;
- **JUNE 2025 – DECEMBER 2026:** implementation paths in local Churches and their groupings;
- **24-26 OCTOBER 2025:** Jubilee of synodal teams and participatory bodies;
- **FIRST HALF OF 2027:** evaluation Assemblies in Dioceses and Eparchies;
- **SECOND HALF OF 2027:** evaluation Assemblies in national and international Episcopal Conferences, Eastern hierarchical structures, and other groupings of Churches;
- **FIRST HALF OF 2028:** continental evaluation Assemblies;
- **JUNE 2028:** publication of the *Instrumentum laboris* for the works of the ecclesial Assembly in October 2028;
- **OCTOBER 2028:** celebration of the ecclesial Assembly in the Vatican

Dear Brother in Christ,

in a spirit of communion and co-responsibility, I write to you and to the holy People of God entrusted to your care regarding the implementation phase of the Synod «For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission». The Holy Father hopes that this phase, as outlined in the Apostolic Constitution *Episcopalis Communio* (n. 7, arts. 19-21), receives particular attention so that **synodality is increasingly understood and lived as an essential dimension of the ordinary life of LOCAL CHURCHES** and the entire Church.

On 11 March, the Holy Father definitively approved the start of a **process of accompaniment and evaluation of the implementation phase** by the General Secretariat of the Synod. This process calls upon Dioceses and Eparchies, Episcopal Conferences, and the hierarchical structures of the Eastern Catholic Churches, as well as their continental groupings. They will be responsible for engaging institutes of consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, lay associations, ecclesial movements, and new communities present in their territories. **It will ultimately culminate in the celebration of an ecclesial assembly in the Vatican in October 2028.** For now, therefore, **a new Synod will not be convened**; instead, the focus will be on consolidating the path taken so far.

The process will rely on the work of synodal teams composed of priests, deacons, consecrated men and women, laymen and laywomen, accompanied by their bishop: these are fundamental tools for accompanying the ordinary synodal life of local Churches. This process will also offer Dioceses that have invested less in the synodal path an opportunity to recover the steps not yet taken and to form their own synodal teams.

**I invite you to communicate to the Secretariat of the Synod the composition and references of the synodal team of your Diocese or Eparchy, using the form available at this link.** [https://synod2024db.com/2025\\_synodal-teams-registration/](https://synod2024db.com/2025_synodal-teams-registration/)

In this context, **the announcement of the Jubilee of synodal teams and participatory bodies to be held on 24-26 October 2025**, takes on particular significance, thus placing the commitment to building a Church that is increasingly synodal within the horizon of the hope that does not disappoint, which we celebrate in the Jubilee.

The journey that will lead the whole Church to the celebration of the ecclesial assembly in October 2028 will be structured in such a way as to offer adequate and sustainable times for the implementation of the Synod's indications, while also providing for some significant moments of evaluation:

# SYNODALITY & THE JUBILEE YEAR

## REFLECTIONS FOR THE DIOCESAN RECOLLECTION

Fr. Manickam Irudayaraj sj

*Fr. Manickam Irudayaraj sj, Jesuit Scripture Scholar, preached the Lenten recollection 2025 for the Diocesan priests. We publish extracts from his reflections to the Diocesan priests.*

Dear Friends in the Lord,

You have already gone through a long process of reflecting and implementing the Synodal Church. You are all aware of the four core elements of the synodal process: Communion; Participation; Mission and Common Discernment through a process of Spiritual Conversation. You also have been introduced to the procedure of the spiritual conversation. Therefore, without repeating them, I would like to focus on the scriptural basis for the concept of synodality and the possible unconscious dynamics that could be operating during the process of spiritual conversation and particularly on the role of prayer in making the synodal process effective.

Considering the literal meaning of the word “synodality” and the four core elements of the synodal process, we could say that the dynamics of the synodal church is all about travelling together as one body of Christ (1 Cor. 12.12-26) towards establishing the Kingdom of God, following the guidance of the Spirit. In this definition, I see three crucial challenges, highlighted by bold face underlined:

- travelling together as one body of Christ
- towards establishing the Kingdom of God
- following the guidance of the Spirit.

These are challenges because they do not seem come as our natural or normal patterns of behaviour. They seem to involve a certain amount of effort and struggle. They seem to face resistance and obstacles. There seem to be forces and counter-forces, emerging from different sources within us. Of these two, one source, according to the Bible, comes from and connected with God (**Gen. 1.26**) and the other, as **Gen. 3.1-7** and **Gal. 7.14-20** explain, is the product of the process of human thinking.

Bishop Baron recognizes these two in terms of **Theo-Drama and Ego-Drama respectively with their specific characteristics and dynamics**. Of these two, the former does not seem to come as natural as the latter; the former is not recognized and articulated as much as the latter. The Ego-drama begins a little after our birth, the first birth. According to Jesus, the Theo-drama begins and becomes consistent after the “second birth” (**Jn. 3.3-5**) [for Christians, it is the Adult Baptism experience, which St.

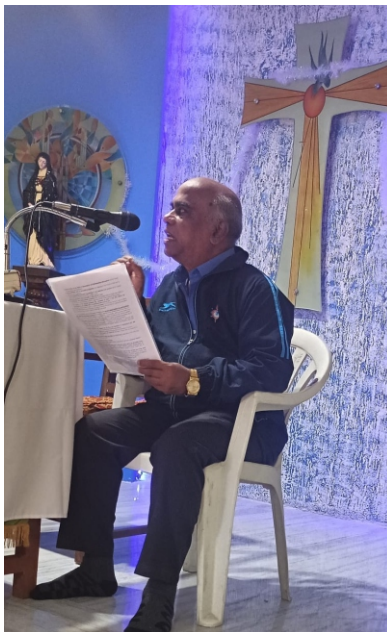
Paul explains in **Rom. 6.3-11** in terms of participating in the Paschal Journey of Jesus.]

We could classify the human behaviour patterns in two categories in a broad way – behaviour that are self-centered and behaviour that are self-transcending. These two kinds of behaviour patterns are related to and emerge from two ways of understanding one's being, one's identity. The ego identity is socio-culturally conditioned and communicated to the individual from childhood and is resident in the mind as a set of beliefs and whose existence is precarious, oscillating between fear and desire.

Because of a long-term habit, the ego-behaviour becomes automatic and unconscious. This ego is the source of all the problems, personal and inter-personal and so the root of all community problems. And for the same reason, it could slow down, even destroy the synodal process. The Divine-identity, on the contrary, is hardly recognized nor articulated. It is dormant. Both the religious and the seminary formation do not seem to address the crucial issue of the necessary transformation from the ego-identity to the Divine-identity, from self-centered life to God-centered life as Paul defines as the gist of our paschal journey. And this paschal way of Jesus is the authentic way to live human life (**Jn. 14.6**).

Therefore, the religious and seminary formation should be patterned on the paschal journey of Jesus. The automatic and unconscious ego behaviour patterns, as we saw, are due to long term habit from childhood. The way to become free from the ego-habits is, first, by becoming conscious before the manifestation of the ego behaviours (giving a little space between stimulus and reaction, as Stephen Covey puts it) and, second, to replace it eventually by God/Love/other-centered life. Here is where prayer plays prominent role.

As you all know, prayer has many dimensions. I want to highlight on prayer as the habit of being in “Communion with the Lord.” I propose two brief periods of prayer of awareness – one in the morning, soon after you get up from the bed. Thank the Lord for the gift of the new day and thank him for creating you in his own image and likeness, making you a valuable, dignified, precious, and wonderful person, filling you with all the divine qualities of love, peace, joy, mercy, compassion, forgiveness,





patience, understanding, freedom, creativity etc. (cf. **2 Cor. 4.7; Gal. 5.22**) **Feel the Formless Presence in the Stillness of your being and all that the Stillness reveals to you. (Ps. 46.10)**

The other prayer is in the night, just before going to sleep, what Ignatius of Loyola had promoted, the examination of the consciousness during the day. It is a quick scanning of the day and becoming aware of the various events and your interactions during the day as to which of them were manifestations your unconscious ego and which of them were expressions of your true divine self. Thank the Lord for the various events of the day and the persons you encountered. Thank the Lord for the times you were conscious of the guidance of the Spirit and ask the Lord's pardon for the times you were unconscious victim of your ego. Forgive yourself and others and send vibrations of love to all. This will help you to become conscious of your

death (that you do not die). This, according to Paul, is the life in the Spirit (**Rom. 8.5b**). This is also the basis for the confident assurance that Paul makes in **Rom. 8.38-39**.

After presenting two awareness prayer, I would like to present another method of prayer, that is, praying the Bible not just for the sake of preparing for the sermon, but for personal transformation, using it as a mirror and a two-edged sword (**Heb. 4.12**).

The Word of God exposes the truth, distinguishing right from wrong, good from evil, and revealing one's inner motives. It can bring conviction and correction, but also grace and redemption, depending on how one responds to it. the Word of God can penetrate the deepest parts of our being. It distinguishes between **human desires (soul)** and **spiritual truth (spirit)**, revealing what is truly of God. The Word exposes our thoughts, intentions, and motives, showing whether they align with God's will. It is a weapon against



usual habituated unconscious behaviour patterns.

If you are sincere and regular with these twofold awareness prayers – in the morning and in the evening, then eventually you will bring consciousness to every action of yours during the day. This will make you a contemplative in action; that is, all your daily actions will emerge from your awareness of the Presence of the Lord within you and of the guidance of the indwelling Spirit. In fact, you would become an unobstructed channel of Divine Love, Peace and Joy and perceive everyone and everything through the eyes of God. There will not be any need to react to the persons and situations; instead, you will be guided and empowered to respond with the Divine Love, Intelligence and Power. This is possibly the deeper meaning of the exhortation of St. Paul in **1 Thess. 5.17**: **“pray without ceasing”** – prayer, as being in the Presence of and in Communion with the Lord, becomes the normal way of life (cf. **Acts, 17.28; Gal. 2.20; 2 Cor. 5.14; Phil. 2.5ff.**). As one of our contemporary writers puts it: the secret of life is to die (to your ego) before you die (that is, your body dies) and realize that there is no

deception, sin, and temptation. The **double-edged sword** of God's Word is both a tool of judgment and a source of grace. It **convicts, corrects, heals, and empowers** us to live according to God's will. **When we engage with Scripture regularly and prayerfully, it transforms us from within.**

What is common to both the methods of prayer is that on the one hand, the falsehood and the illusion within us are exposed and we are enabled to be freed from them; on the other hand, it reveals what is Divine and True and we are enlightened and empowered.

**If we live our daily life as life in the Spirit empowered by the Word of God, then we will be able to go beyond all that divides and separates us from God and from one another (Gal 3.28), then we will be able to live and journey together in communion as one body,** which, in turn, will enable us to **build the Kingdom of God, that is, a Kingdom of Love, Peace and Joy, following the enlightening and empowering guidance of the Spirit. The ultimate and fundamental key is our life of prayer as life in the Spirit.**



## NATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETINGS

January 28-30, 2025 – Bengaluru

*“Charity is a supreme virtue and the great channel through which the mercy of God is passed onto mankind”*

Conrad N Hilton.

A unique opportunity was provided to me as I could attend the Asian level convening of the beneficiaries of the Conrad Hilton Foundation at Conrad Hotel at Ulsoor, in Bangalore from the 28, 29, 30<sup>th</sup> of January. Around 80 priests, sisters fathers and sisters of the dicastery of consecrated life, from Vatican, various religious congregation heads, CRI president Sr. Nirmalini AC., who shared her



experiences of being as the only Indian woman religious at the synod. Various activities were discussed at length.

Another great personality who spoke at the convening was Sr Nathalie Becquart who provided an inside look on the Vatican's historic meeting to discern a new way of listening and working together for the common good.

Sr. Pat Murray IBVM, secretary General, International union of Superiors General UISG, Discussed in short about

collaboration models for growth and Renewal within Religious conferences.

CHAI Director – general Fr. Mathew Abraham CSSR, enlightened the audience about the activities of Catholic Health Association, Sr. Blanch provide information about sisters doctors forum of India. The main Funding agency – program operator sSr. Jane Wakahiu, LSOE, PhD highlighted the power of networks; stressed the greater impact through collaboration.

It was a great experience- an opportunity for learning, coming to know many people, Renewing and rejuvenating oneself for the greater good of service to humanity.





# WRBC ECUMENISM AND DIALOGUE MEETING

11.02.2025 MUMBAI

## WRBC Ecumenism and Dialogue Diocesan Secretaries Meeting

Ten of the sixteen diocesan secretaries (from Ahmedabad, Amravati, Baroda, Bombay, Goa, Gandhinagar, Naskik, Pune, Sindhudurg & Vasai) gathered for the WRBC Ecumenism and Dialogue Meeting on March 11, 2025, at Atma-Darshan Andheri, in Mumbai.

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome by Fr. Vincent Lobo the Secretary for the WRBC Commission,



followed by an half an hour of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

A historico-theological reflection on ecumenism and interfaith dialogue was then presented by Bishop Sebastiao Mascarenhas SFX, the chairman of the Commission, where he highlighted the historical developments of churches along the centuries and the causes for divisions. It sparked a rich exchange of ideas and experiences among the participants.

The commission secretaries shared their respective Dioceses' initiatives and challenges in promoting ecumenism and interfaith dialogue. Among other events they listed: the United Christian Forum in many dioceses, Joint Carol Singing, Joining in various common issues, Sharing preaching among various churches in Lent, getting together at Christmas, Celebrating the Unity Work together, joining in celebration of non christian feasts, visiting the pastors, Symposium and conferences on interreligious dialogue etc...

The participants identified key areas for focus:

- **Promoting Interfaith Education and Dialogue:** Developing and promoting interfaith education programs, workshops, and conferences to foster greater understanding and respect among faith communities.
- **Fostering Collaboration and Cooperation:** Establishing partnerships with faith leaders, organizations, and institutions to promote joint initiatives and social action projects.
- **Supporting Social Action and Justice:** Supporting and promoting social action and justice initiatives that address pressing issues, such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.
- **Encouraging Ongoing Formation and Education:** Providing ongoing formation and education programs for clergy, religious, and laity on ecumenism and dialogue.

The Commission members then agreed to a Common Minimum Program that all could implement and evaluate in our next year. Of course, each diocese could do more as per their capabilities and we could share.

- **Celebrate the Christian Unity Week in select parishes** (a few for a start besides at diocesan level). Plan at the beginning of the year and speak to these parish priests. Let them meet the pastors of the mainline churches in these parishes at least thrice next year.
- **Choose some definite parishes with priests who could have a dialogue outreach program (a few for a start).** Would they be able to meet the local government leaders, teachers and religious leaders casually on a friendly basis to build relationships consciously? Informal meetings so that we can have formal meetings..
- There is a need of **clarifying about the Pentecostal Churches** and their theological/ecclesial standing. The National Commission had published a book earlier. Proper information is needed everywhere.
- The Secretaries decided **to meet on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to evaluate and to plan for** the next year. Unfortunately the National Ecumenical Meeting is scheduled too close to Holy Week and it is not feasible for many.



# PICSWORDS

## PASTORAL VISIT TO SUBIR

22,23.03.2025 Subir



The joy of your vocation is experienced with the simplest in the simplest of circumstances. You could see it on the faces and ebullience of the people of Subir together with their shepherds, Frs. Ashok and Joseph and the sisters led by their Superior Sr. Celine.

For me, personally, the encounter with Fr Tony Maila, the founder of this mission was touching. Long chats with him reinforced my understanding of mission as 'personal encounter' of witness and accompaniment to create an ambience for the Spirit to move where it wills. The fortitude and perseverance of these pioneers based on a deep faith in the Lord is an enduring example for all.

It made me aware that we should not forget the basics of our mission: to be personally present, to personally witness and to trust in Him who called me and dwells in me.





## PICSWORDS

### DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL UMBERGAM - NEW WING, ANNUAL DAY

18.03.2025 Umbergam



The new wing of Divine Mercy School Umbergam was blessed and inaugurated on March 19, 2025 on the occasion of the Annual Day of the School. The children put up a dazzling entertainment program under the guidance of the teachers. The school is making good progress and will be sending its first batch of students for Class X in the next academic year. Being a developing city and port, the school is now making good progress under the leadership of Frs Francis and Bijendra.





### CONFIRMATIONS, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, RETREATS IN ST JOSEPH'S



St Joseph Parish, under the leadership of Fr James Vas sj and Fr Fidelis sj has been very active in the month of March. Confirmations and First Holy Communion was celebrated with great devotion and meaning. On this occasion the Bishop met with the youth group of the parish.

Later a three day retreat, led by Ms Falguni Mehta drew a large gathering of people.



### UPSKILLING PROGRAMS IN PARASPADA-BORPADA



Satmali village belongs to Borpada mission of Paraspada parish. There is no bus facility because of the road condition. Almost all people migrate in search of labour work after Diwali. They stay at least 6 months and for monsoon time they come back. To enable people for better living "hotel management courses are given recently to training them for self employment and hotel management. They are also helped to find jobs. Besides courses in various other skills are conducted. Recently a

course in construction skills was held at the place. (Fr Ishwan Gamit)





CONGRATULATIONS  
DEEP DARSHAN SCHOOL AHWA  
We are proud of you

# જનાદેશ

## ડાંગ જિલ્લાનું ગૌરવ

# રાજ્ય કક્ષાની શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળા સ્પર્ધામાં ડાંગ જિલ્લાની દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવા પ્રથમ ક્રમાંકે

રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળા તરીકે પસંદગી પામતાં જિલ્લા વહિવટી તંત્રે શાળા પરિવારને અભિનંદન પાઠવ્યાં



જનાદેશ પ્રતિનિધિ,  
આહવા: તા: ૨: ગુજરાત રાજ્યના શિક્ષણ વિભાગ દ્વારા ૬૨ વર્ષ વિવિધ તપાસના આધારે જિલ્લા અને રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળાની પસંદગી કરવામાં આવે છે. જેમાં વર્ષ ૨૦૨૪-૨૫ માં ડાંગ જિલ્લાની દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવાની પ્રથમ ક્રમાંકે પસંદગી થવા પામી છે. જે જિલ્લા માટે ગૌરવ પુર્ણ બાબત છે. ડાંગ જિલ્લાની શાળા રાજ્યની સર્વ શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળા તરીકે પસંદગી પામતાં ડાંગ જિલ્લા વહિવટી તંત્ર તેમજ જિલ્લા શિક્ષણ વિભાગે દીપ દર્શન શાળા પરિવારને અભિનંદન પાઠવ્યાં હતાં.

ડાંગના જિલ્લા શિક્ષણાધિકારી શ્રી જીગ્નેશકુમાર ત્રીવેદી તરફથી પ્રાપ્ત વિગતો અનુસાર, ડાંગ જિલ્લાના માધ્યમિક શિક્ષણ વિભાગમાં વધુ એક મોરપિંછ ઉમેરાયું છે. જેમાં જિલ્લા શિક્ષણ વિભાગ તેમજ દીપ દર્શન શાળા પરિવારના અથાગ મહેનતના પરિણામે દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવાને રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ સર્વ



શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળામાં પસંદગી થવા પામી છે જ્યારે આ અગાઉ માધ્યમિક વિભાગમાં પ્રથમ વાર રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ શ્રેષ્ઠ શિક્ષકનો ખિતાબ ડાંગ જિલ્લાના સરકારી માધ્યમિક શાળા આહવાની શિક્ષિકા શ્રીમતી બીજુબાલા પટેલને મળવા પામ્યો છે.

દીપ દર્શન માધ્યમિક શાળાના આચાર્ય સુ.શ્રી સિસ્ટર સુહાસિની પરમારે વધુ વિગતો આપતાં જણાવ્યું હતું કે, વર્ષ ૧૯૭૫ માં માત્ર ૨૦ વિદ્યાર્થીઓથી શરૂ થયેલ દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવામાં આજે ૧૮૦૦ થી વધુ વિદ્યાર્થીઓ શિક્ષણ લઈ રહ્યા છે. આ શાળાએ અસતોમા સદગમ્ય

તમસોમા જ્યોતિગય ના સંદેશને ખરા અર્થમાં ફલીત કરી આજે સંમગ્ર ડાંગ જિલ્લામાં પોતાની આગવી પ્રતિભા ઉપસાવી છે.

શિક્ષણની સાથે શાળાની વિવિધ પ્રવૃત્તિઓ થકી વિદ્યાર્થીના શિક્ષણ તેમજ વ્યક્તિત્વ વિકાસમાં ઉત્તરોત્તર પ્રગતી થાય તે માટે શાળામાં રમત ગમત, કેરીયર ગાઇડન્સ, મુલ્ય શિક્ષણ, વિજ્ઞાન મેળો, સાંસ્કૃતિક કાર્યક્રમો, પ્રકૃતિ શિબીર, શૈક્ષણિક પ્રવાસ તેમજ સેમિનારો યોજવામાં આવે છે.

દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવાને આ અગાઉ પણ વર્ષ ૨૦૧૯-૨૦ માં જિલ્લા કક્ષાએ સર્વ શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળાનો એવોર્ડ મળવા પામ્યો

હતો. વર્ષ ૨૦૨૨-૨૩માં શાળાને યંગ સાયન્સ લીડર સ્પર્ધામાં બેસ્ટ પાર્ટીસીપેટિંગ સ્કુલ એવોર્ડ પ્રાપ્ત થયો હતો. સાથે જ જિલ્લા કક્ષાએ સ્વચ્છ વિદ્યાલયનો પુરસ્કાર પણ એનાયત કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો.

ઉલ્લેખનીય છે કે, રાજ્યના શિક્ષણ વિભાગ દ્વારા રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળા તરીકે ઉપસી આવવા પ્રેરાય તેવી શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળાની સ્પર્ધા માટે જિલ્લા કક્ષાએ પસંદગી પામેલ શાળાઓની યાદીઓ મંગાવામાં આવી હતી. જેમાં ગુજરાત સરકારની શ્રેષ્ઠ શાળા ઈનામ યોજના અંતર્ગત રાજ્ય કક્ષાની સમિતિ દ્વારા ઓનલાઇન ગુણાંકન કર્યા બાદ વર્ષ ૨૦૨૪-૨૫ માં ૮૧.૬૯ ગુણ સાથે ડાંગ જિલ્લાની દીપ દર્શન શાળા આહવાની પ્રથમ ક્રમાંકે પસંદગી કરવામાં આવી હતી. રાજ્ય કક્ષાએ પ્રથમ ક્રમાંકે પસંદગી થતાં રાજ્ય સરકાર તરફથી આ શાળાને પ્રોત્સાહક રૂપે પાંચ લાખની રકમની ચૂકવણી કરવામાં આવશે.



# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY CELEBRATIONS

08.03.2025



ROSARY VADODARA



SURAT



DEDIAPADA



SAGBARA



SAMA

*Women Celebrations in parishes*



DAHOD



ZAROLI





### JESUS YOUTH BIENNIAL ASSEMBLY

The Gujarat Jesus Youth Assembly was held at Manresa, Sevasi from March 7 to 9, 2024. About 100 members took part in the biennial Assembly.

A new Jesus Youth Gujarat Council was elected for the next two years



### FR. ALBERT GONSALVES TURNS 85

Fr. Albert Gonsalves celebrated his 85th birthday with members of his family in the Bishop's House. Fr. Albert is the eldest diocesan priest. He also happens to be the first priest ordained specifically for the fledgling Diocese of Baroda at the time. Fr Albert served all his life in South Gujarat especially in Vyara, Zarol and Hingoria.



Fr. James Bijendra at the Vocation Camp in Rourkela



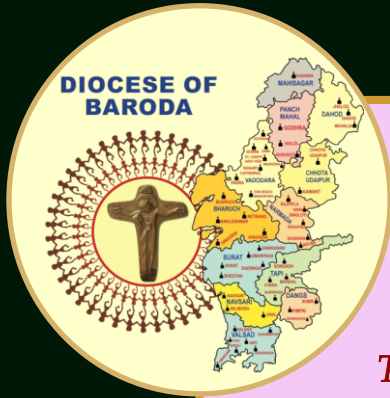
### BISHOP'S HOUSE VIANNEY HOME BLESSED

On the occasion of the Diocesan Lenten Recollection on March 10, 2025, the newly renovated rooms for the Vianney Home for Elderly Diocesan priests was blessed by Bishop Seby Mascarenhas.

This is a long awaited institution for the diocese. Just now three priests are residing in the Bishops House who will now move on to the wing designated Vianney Home..



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### CHRISM MASS

**10 AM, THURSDAY  
APRIL 10, 2025**

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor...  
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.*

**ROSARY CATHEDRAL, VADODARA**

Please send your collections (**COMMUNIO**, **HOLY CHILDHOOD**,  
**HUNGER AND DISEASE**, **GOOD FRIDAY** (Cheques) in favour

"Dakshin Gujarat Seva Kendra",  
Bank: Indian Overseas Bank,  
A/C no: 019501000011894,  
IFSC: IOBA0000195, Branch: Alkapuri, Baroda.

#### CONTACT

**FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR: FR. VINCENT MACWAN**

Off: 70163 48788      Pers: 98795 05766

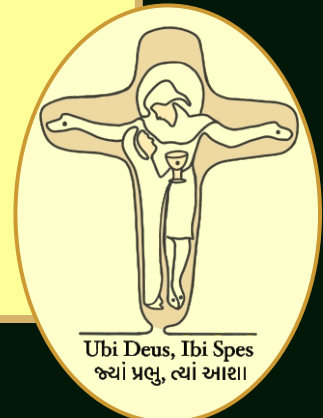
Email: [procuratorbaroda@gmail.com](mailto:procuratorbaroda@gmail.com)

Please send matter for Spotlight

to **FR. VINCENT LOBO**

on his **WHATSAPP 94281 67064**

or on **[barodaapostolic@gmail.com](mailto:barodaapostolic@gmail.com)**



Ubi Deus, Ibi Spes  
જ્યાં પ્રભુ, ત્યાં આશા