



DIOCESE OF KARWAR

Waves



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FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to Bp Derek Fernandes for the Wholehearted support and dedicated service as the Bishop of Karwar for 12 years and as the Apostolic Administrator for 5 years. With his dual responsibility as the Bishop of Belgaum and as the Apostolic Administrator of this diocese, he has left no stones unturned to see this diocese growing, aptly exhibiting his leadership. Being the Chief Coordinator, he was instrumental in organising the Episcopal Ordination event, with his meticulous planning and execution and personally getting involved with the various committees to see that the event would go on smoothly. On behalf of the priests, religious and the lay faithful, I wish to place on record my gratitude and sincere appreciation for all that he had done. Thank you, dear Bp Derek Fernandes. The diocese is much beholden to you.

Now let me thank all of you – priests, religious and people of God - who have literally slogged to make the ordination event a grand success. The way everything went on with meticulous precision was indeed amazing. The whole ceremony which was very solemn and heavenly was well appreciated from all corners. This was possible due to the advance preparation, meticulous planning and the execution of the whole event. It seemed the teamwork, unity and cooperation displayed by the priests, religious and the laity was truly commendable and praiseworthy. It is now

nearly twenty days since my ordination as the bishop of this diocese. I have made quick visits to almost all the parishes and religious houses. This has given me some preliminary knowledge of the situation of the parishes and the diocese. I am looking forward to such longer occasions to get to know you and the parishes in the future. The visits have been a learning experience for me and indeed a listening one. I remain grateful to all the Deans who accompanied me in my journey.

As I begin my ministry as your bishop, I want to express my deep gratitude for the privilege of serving alongside you. I am humbled by the trust placed in me and I am eager to support and accompany you in your sacred work. As we embark on the new chapter together, I want to assure you of my commitment to your well-being, spiritual growth and ministry. I promise to listen, to guide and to serve you with compassion, wisdom and joy. Let us work together to build a community of faith, hope and charity where all may encounter the loving presence of Christ. May the Holy Spirit inspire and strengthen us as we strive to be faithful disciples and devoted servants of the Lord. Mary, Our Mother and her spouse St Joseph, the Patron of the Diocese of Karwar, may intercede for us as we sojourn.

With fraternal love and blessings,

+Duming Dias

1. MY COAT OF ARMS.



Grace of God: Grace is an expression of God's love and mercy towards us. It is the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us. God rains down grace on all mankind. We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realm because we are united with Christ. The best grace is that God purchased our freedom with the blood of His Son and forgave all our sins. This means that accepting God's grace enables us to do things we could not do on our own. It gives us strength and courage to live a life that pleases God. Finally, it is by grace that we are saved.



Word of God: The Word of God par excellence is Jesus Christ, God and Man. The Son is the Eternal Word, ever-present in God, because he himself is God. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God". The Word reveals the Mystery of the Triune God. Eternally spoken by God the Father through the love of the Holy Spirit, the Word carries on a dialogue which expresses communion and leads us into the depths of the divine life of the Most Blessed Trinity.



Jesus Hominum Salvator: By his Real Presence in the Eucharist Christ fulfils his promise to be with us "always, until the end of the age". As St. Thomas Aquinas wrote, "It is the law of friendship that friends should live together. Christ has not left us without his bodily presence in this our pilgrimage, but he joins us to himself in this sacrament in the reality of his body and blood". With this gift of Christ's presence in our midst, the Church is truly blessed and we are blessed in the Lord



"At thy word Lord ": is a phrase from the Bible verse Luke 5:5. In this verse, Simon answered Jesus, "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless, at thy word I will let down the net". when Jesus gave His instruction, Simon chose to believe, and "at Your word" he did what Jesus said. This simple act of faith brought miraculous results and a fear in the hearts of Simon and the other fishermen, and they forsook all and became Jesus' disciples. Without Him, all our efforts are doomed to fail. Those who believe their lives'



Mother Mary: Mary's fiat is not "one-time only" consent. It will be repeated over and over in the days and years ahead.



It initially opens her to be the recipient of the Word making its home in her. Mary will literally bear the Word of God in the flesh; then she will be borne up by it. Her steady pondering of the word and her constant affirmation of it, repeatedly assenting to God's purposes, will carry her forward in unwavering faith and obedience and She remains for us a beacon of light.

2. FEASTS & SOLEMNITIES

May 1: St. Joseph the Worker

In 1955 Pope Pius XII established the Feast of St Joseph the Worker on May 1 as a counter celebration to the communists' May Day. Pius XII emphasized this when he said, "The spirit flows to you and to all men from the heart of the God-man, Savior of the world, but certainly, no worker was ever more completely and profoundly penetrated by it than the foster father of Jesus, who lived with Him in closest intimacy and community of family life and work."

In his encyclical **Laborem Exercens**, Pope John Paul II stated: "the Church considers it her task always to call attention to the dignity and rights of those who work, to condemn situations in which that dignity and those rights are violated, and to help to guide [social] changes so as to ensure authentic progress by man and society." Saint Joseph is held up as a model of such work.

In 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Saint Joseph the patron of the universal Church. This silent saint, the patron of our diocese was given the noble task of caring and watching over Virgin Mary and Jesus, now cares for and watches over us and the Church for all the dignity of human work.

May 13: Our Lady of Fathima

On May 13th, 1917 Mother Mary appeared to Lucy, Francis and Jacinta and opened Her Hands and enveloped the children in Light. Moved by an inward impulse, they fell to their knees praying, "O most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament." Mother Mary said "Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war".

Pope Francis describes how Mary "is very polite, "she knocks on the door of your heart, your conscience, your home, your family." Therefore respond: "Come in, Mother: You know better than I do the things I've done, the problems I have."

Pope Francis thus encourages faithful to pray Rosary at home in the month of May. Pray rosary either as a group or individually; decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities.

May 31: The Visitation

After the Annunciation as Saint Luke recounts, God became man. Divinity united to Humanity within the womb of the Blessed Mother. Mary travelled to be with Elizabeth, her cousin. Thus, she travelled as a tabernacle of the Most High.

On a spiritual level, we can see within this line a twofold action. First, though the Savior was but a tiny child within Mary's womb, He was also God. Thus, within His divinity, God the Son desired that His virginal mother not only go to Elizabeth to assist her in her pregnancy, but that she also go to her because the Son of God desired to sanctify John the Baptist within his mother's womb. It was Jesus, within the womb, who inspired His mother to make the journey so as to fulfil His divine will.

Most glorious Virgin Mary, you were filled with the Holy Spirit at the time of the Annunciation and carried the Eternal Son of the Father. Pray for us that we be filled with that urgency to become holy and to spread that holiness to others.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Ordination to the Diaconate: We are blessed with three brothers who will receive their Diaconate on 22 May 2024 at Holy Cross Church, Shirwad at 10.30am. I request the priests to participate in this celebration and extend a warm welcome to them to the clerical fraternity.

2. Recruitments for the Diocesan Seminary: Candidates aspiring to be priests in our diocese will have the recruitment/interview at 10 am onwards on **22 May 2024** at the Bishop's House, Karwar.

3. Training for the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Since some sisters have been transferred and new ones have taken over, a training for the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion has been fixed to be held on **22-23, June 2024**. A detailed program will be sent to you by the DPC.

4. Audits and Accounts: Priests are requested to get the accounts ready and the dates for auditing will be announced shortly.

5. Anticipation of the Clergy Meeting: The Clergy Meeting has been anticipated by a day. This is to enable priests to participate in the feast of St Anthony. The arrival will be in the evening of **11 June and ends with lunch on 12 June 2024**. You are requested to be present without fail. We are well aware that it is a part of on-going formation.

6. Annual Retreat for the Clergy of the Diocese: Due to my absence in September, the Clergy Retreat has been preponed. It begins on **4th evening, August 2024 and ends on 10th morning August 2024**. All the priests are requested to be present without fail.

4. BISHOP'S ITINERARY

In the month of May

- 03: Feast Day Mass, Cassolrock
- 04: Feast Day Mass, Manaki
- 06: College of Consultors' Meeting, Bishop's House
- 09: Feast Day Mass, Chendia.
- 10: Ordination, Mudkani
- 13: Diocesan Youth Convention, Harihar
- 15: Confirmation, Amdalli
- 16: Feast Day Mass, Kamtikoppa
- 20: Blessing and Inauguration of ICSE School, Chitradurga
- 22: Ordination to Diaconate, Shirwad and Recruitment of candidates for the Minor seminary, Bishop's House, Shirwad
- 23: Confirmation, Prabathnagar.

5. TO THE HEAVENLY ABODE

1. **Mr Francis Corneiro**, aged 76years, brother of Fr Peter Corneiro, was called to the heavenly abode in the wee hours of 23 April 2024 in Mumbai. We offer our condolences to the bereaved family members of Fr Peter Corneiro.

6. BIRTHDAYS

In the month of May

- 01. Fr Silvan Rodrigues
- 04. Fr Salvatore Adamo
- 05. Fr John Worth
- 11. Fr Stephen D'Souza
- 14. **Bishop Derek Fernandes**
- 16. Fr Stany Crasta
- 18. Fr Rohan Fernandes
- 21. Fr Willie R. da Silva
- 21. Fr Wilson Noronha
- 22. Fr Antony Rodrigues (Sr)
- 24. Fr Bosco Ribeiro
- 26. **Arch Bishop Peter Machado**
- 28. Fr Ireneo Dias
- 28. Fr Brian Fernandes
- 29. Fr Cyril Miranda