



DIOCESE OF KARWAR

Waves



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BISHOP'S DESK

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“May this year be filled with the consolation of the Lord! May this year be filled with the tender maternal love of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. I now invite all of us together to proclaim three times: Holy Mother of God! Holy Mother of God! Holy Mother of God!”

POPE FRANCIS

Dear Fathers and Sisters,

New Year 2025 is at hand, let's go aboard on a journey of hope, unity, and celebration. May the Jubilee Year be a transformative experience that brings together people from all walks of life. May our parishes, deaneries, and diocese be filled with joy, love, and compassion. Let us make the Jubilee Year an unforgettable event that inspires us to be beacons of hope and kindness in our world. Implementing the Jubilee Booklet's activities will make this year unforgettable! Let's assemble a dedicated team to craft a customized plan that reflects our parish's unique spirit and charm.

Robert Frost's poem reminds us: **"The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep"** We have promises to keep, and a Jubilee Year to celebrate! Let's get started! We have numerous tasks ahead, but with collective effort, we can achieve greatness! Let's Shed our lethargy and complacency. Set aside personal interests and seek shared glory. Empower the laity to discover and nurture their leadership qualities. Together, we can make our parishes vibrant hubs of community life, loving sanctuaries for all and rays

of hope and inspiration. Let's join hands, hearts, and minds to create a brighter future for our parishes! During Jubilee 2025, let's mobilize and empower various associations within our community. This includes the Missionary Childhood Association, Altar Servers, Young Catholic Students Movement, Indian Catholic Youth Movement, Women's Association, Catholic Association, St. Vincent de Paul, and Professional Guilds comprising lawyers, doctors, nurses, teachers, lecturers and entrepreneurs. By engaging, motivating, and supporting these groups, we aim to deepen their faith, foster community service, promote leadership development, and encourage inter generational connections, ultimately building a vibrant, compassionate, and empowered community.

I will be commencing my Pastoral visits beginning with Haliyal Deanery, and I request all necessary documents and preparations to be made accordingly. **Wishing you all a blessed and joyful New Year 2025, and a spiritually enriching Jubilee Year, filled with God's love, mercy, and grace!**

Duming

✠ Duming Dias



Intention of Pope Francis for the month of January

For The Right To An Education : Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Dilexit nos

HE LOVED US

KEY THEMES OF THE ENCYCLICAL

The encyclical **Dilexit nos** (He Loved Us) by Pope Francis focuses on the intense love of the Heart of Jesus, exploring the inseparable relationship between divine love and human love. The encyclical seeks to deepen the Church's understanding of how Christ's Sacred Heart reflects the boundless love of God and is the perfect model of human love.

1. The Heart of Jesus as the Symbol of Divine Love: Pope Francis emphasizes that the Sacred Heart of Jesus represents God's unconditional and merciful love for humanity. Jesus, in His human nature, reveals the divine love that seeks the salvation and well-being of every person, offering a visible and tangible expression of God's infinite compassion.

2. The Integration of Divine and Human Love: The encyclical underscores the unity of divine love with human love in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus' heart shows how human emotions and affections can be sanctified by divine grace. His love for others, particularly the marginalized, reflects the depths of God's love, and human love is lifted to a higher, more perfect expression through His example.

3. The Call to Imitate Christ's Love: Pope Francis highlights that Christians are called to imitate the love of the Heart of Jesus in their own lives. This means cultivating a love that is both sacrificial and selfless, attentive to the needs of others, especially the poor and suffering. The encyclical encourages the faithful to look to the Heart of Christ as a model for personal and communal love.

4. The Heart of Jesus as a Source of Hope and Healing: The document also speaks about the wounded nature of human love in a broken world. The Heart of Jesus, pierced by the sins of humanity, remains a source of hope and healing for all. Through His Sacred Heart, Christ offers forgiveness, renewal, and the possibility of redemption for all who turn to Him.

5. Mercy and Compassion at the Core of Christian Mission: Pope Francis places particular emphasis on the merciful love that flows from the Sacred Heart as central to the mission of the Church. Christians are called to be ambassadors of this love, bringing Christ's mercy to the world through acts of compassion, justice, and reconciliation.

6. Contemplation and Devotion to the Sacred Heart: The encyclical encourages the faithful to develop a deeper devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pope Francis calls for moments of prayer, reflection, and meditation on this divine-human love as a way of drawing closer to the heart of God and allowing His love to transform the world.

To sum up, the encyclical **Dilexit nos** invites believers to a greater understanding and imitation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, portraying it as the ultimate example of how divine love can elevate and perfect human love, with a particular focus on mercy, compassion, and healing.

2. FEASTS & SOLEMNITIES

Christmas message of Pope Francis: Hope lives, Pope Francis said in his homily for Christmas Eve Mass at the Vatican as he reflected on the incredible fact that the infinite God became a small Child. **“God is Emmanuel, he is God-with-us,” “The infinitely great has become small; the divine light has shone through the darkness of the world; the glory of heaven has appeared on earth. And how? In the littleness of a Child. And if God comes, even when our hearts resemble a poor manger, then we can say: Hope is not dead, hope is alive, and it envelops our lives forever.”** With the opening of the Holy Door, the pontiff said, “each of us can enter into the mystery of this proclamation of grace.” “This is the night when the door of hope has opened wide on the world; this is the night when God says to each one: There is hope for you too!” The jubilee, which has the theme “pilgrims of hope,” is an opportunity for all people to have hope in the Gospel, hope in love, and hope in forgiveness. **“It invites us to rediscover the joy of the encounter with the Lord, calls us to spiritual renewal, and commits us to the transformation of the world, so that this may truly become a jubilee time”.**

Infant Jesus Feast: “The More You Honor Me, the More I Will Bless You” . These words were heard by the Carmelite **Father Cyril of the Mother of God** in the rubble of a Carmelite monastery in Prague in 1637 which had been desecrated and plundered during the 1631 invasion by the Saxons. The 18-inch statue of Infant Jesus had been damaged and the arms broken off. As Father Cyril was viewing the armless statue of the Infant Jesus and contemplating, in awe, **the mystery of the all-powerful God becoming a child**; the statue spoke to Father Cyril saying, *“Have mercy on me and I will have mercy on you. Give me my arms and I will give you peace. The more you honor Me, the more I will bless you.”* Father Cyril repaired the statue and placed it in the Carmelite Chapel, and after receiving multitudes of adoring visitors, and the occurrence of many miracles, in 1741, the statue was relocated to its present, more spacious, location in the **Church of Our Lady Victorious in Prague**.

Feast of Epiphany: The Feast of Epiphany is a celebration of the **revelation of Jesus Christ** to the world, and it is a time for us to **reflect on our own journey of faith**. We are to **follow the example of the Magi**, who were **guided by the star** and led to the manger where Jesus was born. **Faith is a journey**, not a destination, and we must be **open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit** as we navigate the challenges of life. We are to **share the light of Christ** with others, and be a **source of hope and inspiration** in a world that often seems dark and uncertain.

Baptism of the Lord: The **Baptism of the Lord** is a significant event in the life of Jesus Christ. As we reflect on this moment, we are reminded of the **importance of baptism** in our own lives, and the **promise of new life** that it brings. Let us **renew our baptismal vows** and **commit ourselves to following Jesus** on the path of **discipleship**. May the **Holy Spirit** guide and strengthen us as we journey through the challenges of life, and may we always remember the **love and mercy** of God that is poured out upon us through the sacrament of baptism. Let us **pray** for one another, and for the **Church**, that we may be **united in our faith** and **witness to the world** of the **good news of Jesus Christ**."

Our Lady of Lourdes: On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: “I am the Immaculate Conception.” Bernadette was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. During interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was “something white in the shape of a girl.” It was “a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm.” Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862, the Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the cult of Our Lady of Lourdes for the diocese. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907.

3. CHRONICLES

1. Parish Youth Office Bearers Training Program:

One-day training program “**Empowering Tomorrow**” for the youth office bearers of Sirsi deanery was held on November 1, 2024 at St Anthony’s Parish Community Hall. The event brought together 21 participants. Fr Valento Fernandes, the Deanery Youth Coordinator led the programme. The Diocesan Youth Director, Fr Silvan Rodrigues, emphasized on effective leadership qualities.

2. One-Day Seminar on Strategic Pastoral Planning :

A one-day seminar on “**Strategic Pastoral Planning**” was held on 4th November at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad. The seminar was led by Most Rev. Dr Gerald Isaac Lobo, the Bishop of Udupi. Bishop shared insights on the importance of strategic planning in enhancing the church’s mission and outreach.

3. Workshop on Karwar Diocesan Strategic

Pastoral Plan : On November 5, 2024, a workshop focusing on the Karwar Diocesan Strategic Pastoral Plan was successfully held at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad. This event gathered around 60 participants, including clergy and lay leaders, each committed to the understanding and implementing the diocesan vision.

4. The Young Clergy Meeting : The Young Clergy Meeting was held on 6th November 2024 at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad. Fr John Fernandes shared enriching insights on the journey of priesthood. Fr Baptist Gomes, who covered canonical topics, specifically on "temporal goods" and "Graviora Delicta." Bishop Duming Dias addressed the young clergy encouraging them to be confident, positive, multi-tasking, organized, mission-oriented and pastoral in their ministry.

5. Karwar Diocese Welcomes Three New

Priests : Three new priests were ordained for the Diocese of Karwar by Bishop Duming Dias at Our Lady of Assumption Church Cathedral in Kajubag. The newly ordained priests are Fr. Milton Souza, Fr Anil Rodrigues and Fr Francis Fernandes. The ceremony was a reflection of the vibrant faith of the Karwar Diocese and the growing number of individuals answering the call to serve in the priesthood.

6. "Daivik Preran" Everyday Reflection

Book : Bishop Duming Dias officially launched the much-awaited book "Daivik Preran" Everyday Reflection on November 11, 2024. As a project of the Ordinary Jubilee 2025. The book is a collection of daily spiritual insights and meditations designed to encourage personal growth and deeper faith in everyday life.

7. St Joseph the Worker Church, Ambewadi, Celebrates Silver Jubilee.

On 20th November 2024, St Joseph the Worker Church in Ambewadi marked a momentous occasion as it celebrated its Silver Jubilee with pomp and glory. The celebration, commemorating 25 years of spiritual growth and community service, was presided over by Bishop Duming Dias.

8. Altar Boys Day Celebration at the Kajubag

Deanery : The Kajubag Deanery organized a oneday Altar Boys Day Program at St. Joseph's PU College Hall, Karwar.

The event witnessed the participation of 104 Altar Boys, along with 9 priests and a religious sister. The program aimed to enrich the spiritual and liturgical understanding of the participants and foster communion among them.

9. Marriage Preparation Course held at

Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad : A three-day Residential Marriage Preparation Course (MPC) was held from 22nd to 24th November, 2024, at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad, with 33 participants. The primary focus of the course was to help the participants understand and appreciate the richness of marriage in accordance with the teachings of the Church.

10. The Blessing of the foundation stone for the Chapel at Handli, Yedoga Parish:

On November 25, 2024, the foundation stone for the Chapel at Handli in Yedoga Parish, was blessed in a solemn ceremony presided over by Bishop Duming Dias. The Parish Priest, Rev. Fr Urban Santosh Fernandes, the Dean, Fr Raymond Fernandes and Fr Natividade Rodrigues and Fr Wilson Noronha witnessed the occasion.

11. St. Francis Xavier Feast at Diocesan Shrine, Chandavar :

The Feast of St Francis Xavier was celebrated with great fervor and devotion at the Diocesan Shrine in Chandavar on December 3rd 2024. The solemn celebration was presided over by Bishop Duming Dias, who in his homily, highlighted the missionary zeal and unwavering faith of St Francis Xavier, urging the faithful to live out their faith with courage and commitment, just as the saint did.

12. Marriage Preparation Course at

Puneeth Sadan : The three-day residential Marriage Preparation Course was held from 6th to 8th December 2024 at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad with 26 participants gaining valuable insights into the spiritual and practical dimensions of married life.

13. A Day of Renewal and Celebration for the youth of Kumta Deanery :

On December 8, 2024, Kumta Deanery organized a one-day youth gathering named "Novo Spiritus" at St. John the Baptist Church Hall Kumta.

The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 120 youth. Fr Rohan Gonsalves explained the significance behind the name **Novo Spiritus** (“New Spirit”), emphasizing the need for spiritual renewal. Fr Chrysostom Rodrigues highlighted the importance of prayer. Fr Cyprian Silva spoke about the pivotal role of youth in society and the Church. Fr. Rohan Gonsalves encouraged the youth to strive for excellence. Fr. Silvan Rodrigues, spoke on the role and significance of the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) in empowering youth and fostering leadership within the Church.

14. Christmas celebration in the Central Jail, Karwar; On 23 December, 2024 the Diocesan Commission for Prison Ministry had a Christmas celebration for the Prisoners in the Central Jail, Karwar. Bishop Duming Dias delivered a heart touching message on this occasion.

15. Inauguration of the Jubilee 2025 : Bishop Duming Dias inaugurated the Jubilee Year 2025 at Our Lady of Assumption Cathedral, Kajubag at 8am on 29 December 2024. A large number of faithful were present to pray and take part in this joyous occasion.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Deanery Meeting: The Deanery Clergy Meeting and Recollection will be held in the respective deaneries on 8-9 January 2025.

2. Marriage Preparation course: Those preparing to get married will have the marriage preparation course from 10 to 12 January 2025 by the Family Commission at Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Shirwad.

3. Training of Trainees: The Family Commission will organize one day TOT seminar for remote preparation at Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Shirwad on 2 February 2025.

4. Clergy Meeting: We shall have the Clergy Meeting beginning with vespers at 7pm on 12 February and shall conclude with lunch on 13 February 2025, at Puneeth Sadan, Shirwad.

5. Ordination to Priesthood: We are blessed with two brothers, Dn. Agnel Dias and Dn Leo Ciasico will be ordained for the Diocese of Karwar by Bishop Duming Dias on 14 Feb 2025 at Honnavar.

6. Youth Connect: ICYM of the Diocese of Karwar will organize a one day program called ‘**Youth Connect**’ for the Karwar Diocesan Youth residing/studying in Bangalore on February 16, 2025 at St. John Medical College, Bangalore in the presence of the Bishop of Karwar.

7. Family Convention : The Commission for Family will hold a gathering of diaspora families in Bengaluru on Feb 16, 2025. The objectives of the programme is to get connected with the Uttara Kannada Catholic Families. Bp Duming Dias will be present for this gathering

8. Parish Pastoral Council Training: The Laity Commission will conduct training for the members of newly formed PPCs for the deaneries by the Director and the Resource Team.

The dates are as follows:

February 16: Kone and Haliyal Deaneries.

February 23: Kajubag and Haliyal Deaneries.

March 02: Sirsi and Honavar Deaneries.

March 09: Kumta and Bhatkal Deaneries.

More details will follow regarding the places of training.

9. Visit to the Parish Women Cell: The Diocesan Commission for Women and deanery team shall visit the Parish Women Cell in the month of January.

10. Training for the Leaders: The Diocesan Commission for Women shall have a training for the deanery leaders at the deanery level on 14 & 15 January 2025 and 26 February 2025.

11. Universal Jubilee 2025- Rome:

January 2025

Unity Octave, Jubilee of the Ecumenical Church. Holy Mother Church celebrates every year Conversion of St. Paul as the Day of Ecumenical Movements. This year we will name it as Jubilee of the Ecumenical Church. May we be of one heart and mind and of one faith.

February 2025

Presentation of the Lord: **CRI Jubilee of the Consecrated.** On the day of Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, Church remembers this day as the Day of Consecrated people. **Let us pray for our Clergy and Religious.**

Our Lady of Lourdes: **Jubilee of the Sick.** In our Litany of Our Lady, we invoke her as Mary, Health of the Sick. On the Feast day of her appearance in Lourdes, the Holy See celebrates her healing powers which are very much known. **On that day let us pray for all the sick in our families, parish and all the sick in the world.**

6. BISHOP'S ITINERARY

In the month of January 2025

- 01 6.30 pm Christmas with the officials
- 02. 11.00 am Feast Mass, Motto
05.30pm O.L. of Fathima, Molkod
- 03 06.00pm Beach Christmas - 2025
- 04. 10.30 am Feast, Hadinbal
- 05. 10.00 am Confirmation, Madi
- 06. 10.30 am Holy Cross Feast, Shirali
- 08 10.30am St Paul's Feast, Bukkinkoppa
- 08-09 Deanery meeting
- 10. 10.30 am St. Anne's Feast, Yedoga
- 11. 10.30 am Feast, Mundolli
- 12. 10.00 am Confirmation, Sunksal
05.30 pm Confirmation, Bankikodla
- 13. 10.00 am Silver Jubilee, Kodse
- 14. 10.30 am Infant Jesus Feast, Agasabagil
05.30 pm Infant Jesus Feast, Sharavathinagar
- 15. 10.30am St. Sebastian Church, Sorab
- 16 Open Day for Priests and Religious
- 18. 11.00 am Feast, Kadle
- 22. 10.30 am St. Peter Feast, Sannamotto
- 25 -4 Feb. CCBI- Bhubaneshwar

In the month of February

- 07. 10.00 am Confirmation, Gundibala
- 08. 10.30 am Hoy Spirit Chapel, Ekkambi
- 09. 8.30 am Confirmation, Matadakeri
3.00 pm Bishop Gerald Lobo – Jubilee
- 10. 10.00 am Confirmation, Kirwatti
- 11. 10.30 am Confirmation, Kodani
- 12. 10.30 am Cnvnt and Schl Inauguration, Mallapur
- 12-13 Clergy Meeting, Puneeth Sadan, Karwar
- 14 10.00am Ordination, Honnavar
- 15. St. Anthony's Ashram Feast, Mangalore
- 16. Family Convention, Bangalore
1- 4 pm Youth Convention, Bangalore
- 17- 20 KRCBC Meeting, Bangalore
- 20-21 St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bangalore
- 22 PMI Meeting, Subodhana, Bangalore

7. BIRTHDAYS

In the month of January

- 05 Fr Thomas Fernandes
- 10 Fr Antonio D'Souza
- 12 Fr Sebastian Fernandes
- 17 Fr John Farrugia
- 20 Fr Sebastian Pinto
Fr Royston Gonsalves
- 22 Fr Victor Dias
- 22 Fr Prem Kumar D'Souza OFM
- 24 Fr Simon Fernnades
- 25 Fr Paul Sequiera
- 31 Fr Joseph Pinto

In the month of February

- 04 Fr Britto D'Silva
- 05 Fr Mark Fernandes
- 11 Fr Peter D'Sa OCD
- 13 Fr Gabriel Lopes
- 15 Fr Rohan Gonsalves
- 16 Fr Edwin D'Souza
- 21 Fr Valerian D'Souza
- 23 Fr Theodore D'Cunha SAC
Fr Jose Rufino Melendes
- 26 Fr Urban S. Fernandes
- 27 Fr Arun Fernandes
- 28 Fr Bonaventure Rodrigues

8. TO THE HEAVENLY ABODE

Mr. Bhadtol Rodrigues, brother of Rev. Fr Anthony Rodrigues,(Jr) and **Mr Anthon D'Souza**, father of Rev. Fr. Justine D'Souza were called to their heavenly abode on 15 and 21 December 2024 respectively. Let's pray for the eternal repose of their souls and pray for strength and courage for **Fr Anthony**, **Fr Justine D'Souza** and their family.



HAPPY NEW YEAR & A GRACEFILLED JUBILEE YEAR

POPE'S INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

For Vocations To The Priesthood And Religious Life: Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.