

**My dear Brother Priests, Sisters and Brothers in Jesus Christ,**

**The Grace and Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!**

This year marks the centenary of the Marian apparitions in Fatima. On 13<sup>th</sup> May Pope Francis canonized Francisco Marto and Jacinta Marto, two of the three children who witnessed the apparitions of Blessed Virgin Mary in Fatima. These two died at the age of 10. The other, Lucia, who became a religious sister in the Carmel Convent in Coimbra in Portugal, died on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2005 at the age of 98. The message of Fatima was a call to consecrate the whole humanity to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Blessed Virgin Mary who introduced herself to the children as 'Our Lady of the Rosary', exhorted them 'to lead back the entire humanity to God through the path of 'penance, conversion and prayer'. As we celebrate the centenary of Fatima apparitions this year and as we prepare for the Golden Jubilee of our Eparchy let us entrust the Eparchy, all the missionaries, all the faithful and all the people who live with in the area of our Eparchy to the protection of our Blessed Virgin Mother! Let us, through 'prayer', 'penance' and 'conversion of heart' and invoking the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary work for the evangelization of everyone in the Eparchy.

#### **The New Scholastic Year**

After the summer holidays our schools reopen on 16<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> of this month. For most of the children that is also the beginning of a new scholastic year. Let us joyfully welcome the children back to the school offering them as well as all the teachers, staff, parents/guardians of the children in the school to Our Lord Jesus Christ. These children are dear to the Lord and He entrusts them to us to be formed in love of God and in true Gospel values. Education is, for us, an apostolate of evangelization; let us consciously and with full commitment, engage in the apostolate.

Most of our schools had good results in the board exams last years. Hearty congratulations to the managers, principals and the teachers who have worked hard with great commitment and dedication!

#### **Life Skills, Value Education and Carrier Guidance Programme**

As had already been informed, from this June we are introducing in our schools 'Life Skills, Value Education and Carrier Guidance Certificate Programme' under the auspices of the Department of Education and Sanjos Institute. This programme is being conducted in collaboration with IPMS Mumbai. They will provide us with study materials and training experts. This programme could be integrated with the Moral Science classes. This year the course fee per student from standard VI to XII will be Rs. 500. They have agreed to provide free of cost the study materials and classes for students from Class I to V this year. International Course Certificates will be provided to the students annually for which they will have to pay a fee. For further details please contact Rev. Fr. Joby Nirapel, Director of Sanjos. May I request the whole hearted involvement of the managers, principals, the priests, sisters and all those who are engaged in the apostolate of education for effectively implementing this formative programme for our students in the schools.

#### **Nirmala College of Education**

Happy to inform you that the diocese has got the approval and affiliation for the proposed 'Nirmala College of Education'. This year we would be able to start two courses i.e. D.El.Ed (Diploma

in Elementary Education) of two years and BSc & Bed as integrated course of four year duration. For D.El.Ed we have the freedom to admit students of our own choice provided they have secured at least 50% marks in Higher Secondary Exams. The BSc-Bed course also is to start this year. But we have no right to take direct admissions for the course. For the details of admission for D.El.Ed course, please contact Rev. Fr. Sebastian Pullatt, the Director of the Institute. It may be an opportunity for some of our teachers who lack the required training for teaching. I do appreciate the hard work put in by Rev. Frs Joby Nirapel and Sunil Konnackal, under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Sebastian Pullatt to get the approval and affiliation for the college. Please pray that this new initiative of the diocese in the field of higher education may succeed.

### **Mission Seminar 2017**

The Mission Seminar 2017 starts at 9.30 am at Kripa Training Centre, Chandessary on 12<sup>th</sup> of this month. It is a three day seminar and is scheduled to conclude by 4 pm on 14<sup>th</sup>. May I request all the missionaries to actively participate in the Seminar. This time the seminar will be conducted by 'Chirsteen Team' from Kottayam. They have named the Seminar 'Power Evangelization'. Please remember that this is a preparatory seminar in view of the Golden Jubilee of our Eparchy.

### **Called to Eternal Rest**

The Eparchy of Ujjain remembers with gratitude and love the three missionaries of ours who have passed away in the last month.

Rev. Sr. Innocentia SABS died on 12<sup>th</sup> May and her mortal remains were laid to rest in the cemetery chapel, Ujjain on 15<sup>th</sup> May. She has been in the Eparchy of Ujjain as a missionary since the year 1983.

Rev. Fr. Paul Naickarakudy MST died on 18<sup>th</sup> May in Kerala and he was buried at the Cemetery Chapel, Deepti Mount, Melampara on 19<sup>th</sup> May. Rev. Fr. Paul Naickarakudy and Rev. Fr. Francis Kandathil were the first missionary priests from our Church and MST to come and work in Ujjain. Fr. Paul Naickarakudy had been in the Eparchy of Ujjain for four and half years. He was the founder of Shujalpur mission centre.

Rev. Fr. Jaison Puthenpura MST, passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> May after a prolonged disease, and was buried at the Cemetery Chapel, Deepti Mount, Melampara on 27<sup>th</sup> May. He had been in the Eparchy of Ujjain for a few years as priest in charge at Susner and Mana.

Let us pray that the good Lord may give them Eternal Reward!

### **Holy Qurbana on 17<sup>th</sup> June for Bishop John Perumattam**

The 6<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Bishop Mar John Perumattam falls on 18<sup>th</sup> June. That day being Sunday, we are planning to have the celebration of Holy Qurbana and the Office for the Dead for Bishop Mar John Perumattam on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. The Holy Qurbana and prayers will be celebrated in St. Mary's Cathedral at 5.30 p.m. All those who are able to come, are invited to participate in the Holy Qurbana and prayers on that day. Others can offer the Holy Qurbana and prayers in their own places on 17<sup>th</sup> for our beloved late Bishop. May the Lord grant him Eternal Rest!

## Transfers and New Appointments

There have been many transfers and appointments of Sisters in the Eparchy in the months of May-June. I sincerely thank all the Sisters who have been transferred to other mission stations or communities inside or outside the Eparchy for their dedicated service. Cordial welcome and prayerful wishes to those who have newly joined the missionary team in the Eparchy in different mission centres!

Father Thomas (Stanto) Vazheparampil has been relieved of his duties in the Minor Seminary, Ghonsla in view of language studies as a preparation for higher studies in Rome. Sincere thanks and prayerful wishes to Rev. Fr. Stanto. Cordial welcome to Rev. Fr. Aneesh Vanchiparayil, who has taken charge as a member of the formation team and Finance Administrator in Rajeshwar Bahavan Minor Seminary, Ghonsla.

## Happy 'Dukhrana': 'Sabhadinam'

On 3<sup>rd</sup> July we celebrate the Feast of Dukhrana of St. Thomas the Apostle of India, our Father in Faith. It is a day of obligation for us St. Thomas Christians. May I wish every one of you a very Happy Feast of Dukharana! Let us remember that we celebrate the Feast Day of Dukhrana 3<sup>rd</sup> July, as 'Syro-Malabar Day', 'Sabhadinam'. On that day we are specially invited to pray for the whole Church, entrusting the church, all her children, all the apostolic activities to the patronage of St. Thomas the Apostle. The Church collections of that day are meant for the needs of Mount St. Thomas, the Syro-Malabar Major Archiepiscopal Curia!



## Monthly Recollections

Please note the following dates of monthly recollections for our priest in the Eparchy.

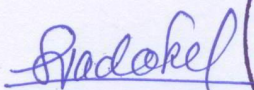
July 2017	20 <sup>th</sup> Thursday
August 2017	17 <sup>th</sup> Thursday
September 2017	21 <sup>st</sup> Thursday
October 2017 Annual Retreat	15 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup>
November 2017	16 <sup>th</sup> Thursday
December 2017	21 <sup>st</sup> Thursday

The annual retreat for priests will be held from 15<sup>th</sup> evening to 20<sup>th</sup> morning in October at Prathana Nikethan, Pachore.

With prayerful 'Dukharana Wishes!

Yours in Our Lord,

Ujjain,  
June 11, 2017

  
+Sebastian Vadakel  
Bishop of Ujjain

