

11<sup>th</sup> December 2013

*My dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and Lay Faithful,*

**Appointment of the new Bishop of Balasore:**

Greetings of joy and peace to you in the Lord.

I have the pleasure to inform you that His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed Rev. Fr. Simon Kaipuram, C.M., presently the Rector of Aquinas College, Gopalpur, Ganjam District, as the new Bishop of Balasore Diocese. While congratulating the new Bishop, I request your prayers for him that the Lord bless him in abundant measure and that the Holy Spirit illumine him in his Episcopal ministries in the diocese.

The newly appointed Bishop Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simon Kaipuram, C.M. will be present at Balasore on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2013, during our Christmas get-together in the Bishop's House, Balasore.



**Rev. Fr. Simon Kaipuram, C.M**

**Episcopal Ordination:**

The Episcopal Ordination of Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simon Kaipuram, C.M., the Bishop-elect of Balasore will be held at Balasore on 30<sup>th</sup> January (Thursday) 2014 at 9.30 a.m. **Most Rev. Salvatore Pennacchio, the Apostolic Nuncio**, will be the Main Celebrant for the Episcopal Ordination. This is the first time that the Apostolic Nuncio is visiting Balasore.

**Bio-Data of the new Bishop**

- Date of Birth** : 9<sup>th</sup> February 1954 at Thanneermukkom, in the parish of Kannankara, in the Archdiocese of Kottayam
- Priestly Ordination** : 20<sup>th</sup> December 1980
- Academic Grade** : Doctorate in Biblical Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

**Ministries and Offices undertaken:**

- 1981-1982 - Assistant Parish Priest of Aligonda parish, Diocese of Berhampur
- 1982-1983 - Assistant Parish Priest of Mohana parish, Diocese of Berhampur
- 1983-1985 - Biblical Theology studies at Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome
- 1985-1989 - Formator and Professor at Aquinas College, Gopalpur
- 1990-1993 - Biblical Theology studies at Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome
- 1994-1999 - Rector of the Vincentian Theology Study House, Pune
- 1999-2007 - Formator and Dean of Studies at Aquinas College, Gopalpur
- 2007-2011 - Formator at the Vincentian Minor Seminary, Jyothi Nivas, Baripada, in the Diocese of Balasore
- 2011 onwards – Rector and Professor at Aquinas College, Gopalpur, Ganjam Dt.
  - Member of the Diocesan College of Consultors (Berhampur Diocese)
  - Consultor and Assistant Provincial of the Congregation of the Mission
  - Visiting Professor of Sacred Scripture at various Major Seminaries and Theological Institutes in India.

***God Bless you,***

***Devotedly yours in Christ,***

**Thomas Thiruthalil, C.M.  
Bishop of Balasore**

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