

Circular No. 06/2014

21st July, 2014

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from Bishop's House, Balasore!

“The earth has yielded its fruits, the Lord our God has blessed us ...” (Ps 67:6) says the Psalmist in praise of God who gives good harvest. Faced with an erratic monsoon season in which, after a long wait, some areas have experienced torrential rains and ensuing flood-like situation while in many places rains have been deficient, will we be able to join the Psalmist and thank God for a plentiful harvest in due time?

Indian economy, despite all the tall claims made by our business and corporate sectors, is still dependent largely on normal annual monsoon, failure or the excess of which spells doom, foreshadowing the grim realities of drought, scarcity and famine. However, we must admire the resilience and patience of those in the agricultural sector, dependent on the land and its produce, who do not lose hope. We shall join them and await a time when we will be able to say to God with the Psalmist, “You care for the earth by sending rain; you make it rich and fertile ... you provide it with crops ...you soften the soil with showers and cause young plants to grow” (Ps 65:9-10).

1. THE COUNCIL OF PRIESTS

Given below are the names of the Fathers who will constitute the Council of Priests / Presbyteral Council of the Diocese. As per Canon no. 495, “the Council’s role is to assist the Bishop, in accordance with the law, in the governance of the Diocese, so the pastoral welfare of that portion of the people of God entrusted to the Bishop may be most effectively promoted”.

EX- OFFICIO MEMBERS

1. Fr. Sangram Murmu (Vicar General)
2. Fr. Jose Aresseril (Secretary, Treasurer cum Chancellor)

ELECTED MEMBERS

Balasore Deanery:

3. Fr. Paul Kidangan
4. Fr. Chacko, V.L.
5. Fr. Mathew Karikulam
6. Fr. Jadu Marndi

Keonjhar Deanery

7. Fr. Efrem Lakra
8. Fr. Anil Ferdinand
9. Fr. Daso Murmu

Mayurbhanj Deanery

10. Fr. Varghese Puthumattam
11. Fr. Jayaprakash Behera, C.M.
12. Fr. Isaac Puthenangady
13. Fr. Manoranjan Beshra

APPOINTED MEMBERS

14. Fr. Jacob Kallapurackal
15. Fr. Jojo Vaidyakaran
16. Fr. Paul Koonamparampath
17. Fr. M. Balthasar
18. Fr. Roy Kochupurackal
19. Fr. Laurance Thalikulam
20. Fr. Cyprian Lakra
21. Fr. Saji Karathankal
22. Fr. Rajesh Ddungdung
23. Fr. Jojo Chakkalamattath
24. Fr. Jyoti Prakash Lakra

The first meeting of the Council of Priests together with the Bishop will be held at the Bishop's House on **Tuesday, 5th of August at 9 am.**

2. THE COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

Given below are the names of the Fathers who will be the members of the College of Consultors in the Diocese for the next five years. The members of the College ably assist the Bishop by expressing their consent and opinion on important matters pertaining to the overall functioning of the diocese.

1. Fr. Sangram Murmu
2. Fr. Jose Aresseril
3. Fr. Isaac Puthenangady

4. Fr. Saji Karathankal
5. Fr. Rajesh Ddungdung
6. Fr. Jadu Marndi

3. VIANNEY DAY – 2014

On the 4th of August 2014 (Monday) we will be celebrating the Feast of St. John Mary Vianney, the Patron of Priests. This year we shall celebrate the feast on a diocesan level, for which all the priests working in the diocese are invited to Deepthi Bhavan Pastoral Centre, Kuruda. What is envisaged for the celebration is a day's programme, of which the morning hours will be dedicated to spiritual activities like Reflection, Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist, and the afternoon for recreational matters. We shall begin the day's programme at 9 A.M. All the priests are requested to come for the celebration in order to manifest the unity and fellowship among us in the Diocese.

4. On-Going Formation at KJM, Sason

An on-going formation for the first six batches of alumni has been planned by the KJM administration. Fr. Francis Pereira SVD, the Rector of the Seminary, informs: "In the coming year the first batch of KJM alumni will be celebrating their sacerdotal silver Jubilee. We are also aware that many of our alumni priests after more than 20-24 years in priestly ministry are in need of on-going formation especially in the field of doing ministries in innovative and creative ways. Hence, the KJM staff has planned for a Seminar on Creative Ministries for the **first six batches of KJM alumni priests** as part of their on-going formation".

The dates are from 24th to 27th of September.

Resource person for the seminar is Fr. Jerry Rosario, SJ (and others)

I recommend this seminar for the priests belonging to the first six batches at KJM from our Diocese. Further information can be had from Fr. Francis Pereira SVD (mob: 9438678578).

5. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

August 11 (Monday): Information and sharing on 'Couples for Christ' programme, at Deepthi Bhavan Pastoral Centre, Kuruda. All Priests are invited for the programme; it is obligatory for Parish priests.

August 12-14 (Tuesday-Thursday): Renewal Seminar for Priests, by the 'Suvantha Kendra' Team from Pachmarhi. This three-day renewal programme is obligatory for all priests working the diocese.

October 11-12 (Saturday-Sunday): Seminar for all the Religious (Priests, Sisters and Brothers) working in the diocese. The seminar aims at a study, reflection and sharing on 'Perfectae Caritatis', the Vat II Decree on 'Renewal of Religious life', in connection with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Great Council. A copy of the Decree will be given to all a few weeks prior to the seminar.

October 13-17 (Monday-Friday): Annual Spiritual Retreat for the Diocesan Clergy of Balasore at Bandel Shrine premises (Kolkata). All the Diocesan Priests are expected to attend the retreat.

A 3-day seminar on 'Ho Culture and Language' by Fr. Edwin Coelho of Jamshedpur Diocese is under consideration. It will be open to those who work in the Ho region of the Diocese and anyone interested in the subject. Intimation regarding the venue and dates will be given later.

A few retreats / popular mission have been planned at zonal and linguistic levels. The Faith-Formation Tem of the Diocese will inform the Parish Priests concerned of the centres where the programmes will be conducted.

6. RE-ORGANIZATION OF ECCLESIASTICAL TRIBUNAL IN ODISHA

The Inter-diocesan Tribunal of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, hitherto dealing with Marriage cases as well as all types of cases as permitted by the Code of Canon Law in all the five diocese of Odisha, has now been bifurcated into two Tribunals namely, the Metropolitan Tribunal of Cuttack- Bhubaneswar and the Inter-diocesan Tribunal of Odisha. The Archbishop of Cuttack- Bhubaneswar will be the moderator of the Metropolitan Tribunal and its office will be in Bhubaneswar (C/o Archbishop's House), and the Bishop of Sambalpur will be the moderator of the Inter-diocesan Tribunal of Odisha and its office will be in Sambalpur (C/o Bishop's House). So hereafter all the cases of our Diocese will be referred to the latter, i.e., the Inter-diocesan Tribunal of Odisha.

7. MY TRIP ABROAD

I will be attending a seminar for the 'New Bishops from the Mission Territories' (those ordained within the last two years) organized by the Vatican from the 7th till the 21st of September. But prior to that and few days following that I will be meeting some of our benefactors and friends both in Italy and Germany. If everything goes as planned, I shall be leaving for Europe on the 23rd of August and will be back in the Diocese on the 27th of September. Please pray for the success of my visit.

In my absence Fr. Sangram Murmu, the Vicar General, will be in charge of the affairs of the Diocese.

8. BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

JULY 2014

21	- Balasore	- Meeting of the Regional Commission for Health Care
22	- Balasore	- BSSS Governing Body Meeting
26	- Baripada	- Feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, (St. Anne's Convent)
27	- Anandapur	- Feast of St. Alphonsa
29	- Udula	- Feast of St. Martha (St. Joseph's Convent)
30	- Balasore	- Meeting of the Regional Commission for Pontifical Mission Organizations
31	- Sanghabhanga	- Feast of St. Ignatius Loyola

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2014

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| 02 | - Garhdeulia | - Seminar for the SABS superiors |
| 03 | - Bagdah Village | - Sunday Eucharist |
| 04 | - Balasore | - Feast of St. John Mary Vianney (Kuruda) |
| 05 | - Balasore | - Meeting of the Council of Priests and College of Consultors |
| 09 | - Baripada | - Mass at the MC Convent |
| 11-14 | - Balasore | - Seminar for Priests (Kuruda) |
| 15 | - Kusudia | - Feast of the Jaya Matha Convent |
| 16-18 | - Janla | - Seminar for MC Sisters |
| 20 | - Balasore | - Seminar by the OCHA (Kuruda) |

23rd August till 26th September: In Europe

27th September: - Feast of St. Vincent De Paul at St. Vincent's Convent (CMC),
Balasore

28th September: - Jyothi Hospital Day

With Regards and Blessings

†Simon Kaipuram, C.M.
Bishop of Balasore