



**BUXAR DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER**

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## SHEPHERD'S VOICE

### INTEGRITY

How often we have said “Yes” for “No” and “No” for “yes”? Jesus, who said to his disciples “Follow me”, indicated that they should be willing to follow his lifestyle.

Later he instructed his disciples, before commissioning them on their mission, 'your answer shall be “Yes” for yes and “No” for no and nothing more than that. It amounts to being truthful and sincere, leading a life of integrity. Therefore, an untruthful and insincere person without integrity cannot claim to follow the lifestyle of Jesus. Hence it goes without saying that any baptized person of that sort cannot claim to be a genuine Christian. Is it not true that Yahweh walked with Israel as long as they lived a life of integrity? They were doomed to face their own fate the moment they lost their integrity or truthfulness as the people of God. “Is this the sort of fast that pleases me.....Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you” (Is. 58/5-9). This is the commandment that the Lord sets before us. “Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am holy” (Lev. 11:44).

The implications of this life-style are many: “you must not be partial to the little man nor overawed by the 'great'; you must pass your judgment on your neighbor according to justice; you must not slander your own people .....you must not bear hatred for your brother/sister in your heart ..... you must love your neighbor as yourself” (Lev. 19/14-18). Otherwise we will hear the voice of the Lord, “Woe to you, ..... You hypocrites .... You are like whitewashed tombs....” (Mt. 23: 23-28).

One sure help we look for, when we decide to live a life of integrity, is a person of that sort, whom we could model on to. Jesus presented us a model when he said, “Of all men born of women, he (John the Baptizer) is the greatest of all. John's genuine passion for his mission with an emphatic authentic life style made people doubt if he were the Messiah himself! In our

contemporary world, people like Mahatma Gandhi who explicitly reveals even his shadow side of life and the way he overcomes all the hurdles, searching for or experimenting with truth, could be another person we could adopt on our journey to 'life'. Nelson Mandela would be another one. The Church has attributed sainthood (“Being holy as the Heavenly Father is holy”) to myriads of people proclaiming them as models. Hence, there is no dearth of models. The challenge is that each one of us is invited to be one of them! “Oh, that today you would hear his voice: 'Harden not your hearts' ....”

Given our human frailties and inner compulsions, one may wonder if it is an achievable goal at all. Remember, Saul could become St. Paul, despite inclinations to do what he in the heart of heart did not want to do. The secret is that he openly admitted his sinful ways (confession) and sought remedy for the same. Jesus himself had to face temptations till the last moment. The devil challenged him twice, “If you are son of God....” (Mt. 4: 3,6); and the third one was the offer to be the king of the world and the final one being, “If you are son of God, come down from the cross” (Mt. 27: 40). If the son of God was tempted with such tricks, where are we - fragile human beings? To be a person with integrity is certainly an achievable goal, provided we are ready to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily and follow him. This we do in a very intense form during the holy season of lent; and thereby we seek ways and means, proper to us, to bridge the gap between what we should be and what we really are.

“Jesus was authentic because there was consistency in what he taught and what he did, in how he lived” (Pope Francis). The harmonious existence of body, mind and soul is the recipe for the individual's integrity. If we have the courage to follow Jesus' footsteps, sure enough, we will have the required harmony and integrity in life, thereby becoming models for others.

**+Sebastian Kallupura**

Apostolic Administrator, Diocese of Buxar

## WEAVING

*Notwithstanding the fact that corona virus has still to gain entry into Bihar, the terrifying fact of the 'Made in China' dragon, COVID – 19 has devoured more than 3000 brothers and sisters of ours world over and attacked about 9000 in about 70 nations and is spreading in an alarming rate, affecting global economy. No war planes, bombs or missiles seem capable of shooting the invisible virus down! This cannot leave us mute spectators. Responsible response is needed following preventing measures and expressing solidarity with the affected.*

*The locusts, bushfire, floods and fight between nations and religions, resulting in bloodshed remind one of biblical times. This is a time for soul searching and discernment, as the whole humanity is on the brink of an unfathomable abyss! The year 2020 has begun with a BIG bang and no doubt, we are hit. *The superpowers are turning now to the Supreme Power.* # “We too?”*

*While CBCI has called for a *culture of dialogue* as a remedy to broken relationships at micro and macro levels of the society and nation, the Lenten Pastoral Letter of the Bishop invites us to be 'servant leaders' with integrity, as the Shepherd's Voice points out. Adapting such methods, the diocese has been able to face the challenges in the past few months, thanks to the cooperation of people involved.*

*The Republic Day celebrations in all our institutions added another feather of patriotism, love for our Mother Land and respect for the Constitution to the cap.*

*Gazing at the spectrum of new assignments in the diocese makes one hope that the new and *young blood will sweep like new brooms* to infuse more life in the respective fields.*

*The months of March and April are going to bring showers of blessings on us with the holy season of Lent culminating in the Holy Week and Easter. Along with that all of us will have to be active agents in carrying out the vision and mission of the diocese based on the DPP. In the forthcoming Diocesan Pastoral Council we will have to take into account the present situation around us and respond to the same with a sense of mission.*

*The section of 'Do you know?' is added in this issue to go beyond the *frontiers of our diocese* and be a true Catholic with global mission. Each item has an implicit invitation to respond in any way possible.*

*Ultimately reading through the news of the demise of our dear ones, is the knell to remind us of our own mortality and to *prepare ourselves for the immortality – our destiny.**

**FRUITFUL LENTEN SEASON AND HAPPY EASTER**

JA

## ASSIGNMENTS

Bishop Sebastian Kallupura: Elected the Chairman of Caritas India by CBCI

**Fr. Thomas Vettu:** Father-In-Charge, Bhagawanpur (Substation). Sunday Mass at Bhabua.

**Fr. Anil Benet:** Administrator, Sewa Dham

**Fr. Pratap Dalai:** Diocesan Director of Youth,

**Fr. Susai Raj:** Co-Pastor, Dumraon

**Fr. Manoj Kumar:** Director, BUDSSS

**Fr. Anand Kumar:** Dean, Rohtas Deanery

**Fr. Charlie Issac:** Dean, Bhojpur (Re-appointed)

**Sr./Dr. Anushila SND,** Diocesan Director of Health Ministry

**College of Consulters:** Fr. Eddie Mendonca SJ (new), Fr. Anand Kumar (new), Fr. Rajendran (new), Fr. Akshay IMS, Fr. Francis Mattathilani, Fr. James Amakatt.

- **Fr. Anil** has taken up his double role in the diocese with utmost seriousness from Jan. We wish him special divine blessings.
- **Fr. Pratap** is to have his residence at Kudra, where he will assist also in the parish.
- As **Fr. Manoj** has moved out from the Buxar parish to SD to succeed Fr. Sudeep.
- These days **Fr. Susai** is invited to different parishes for his First Mass there. He will get into the shoes of Fr. Pratap at Dumroan soon.
- As we extend our **congratulations** to all assigned with new responsibilities, prayers go up for the charisma of office for each of them.

## 1. EVENTS

### ➔ Priestly Ordination of Fr. M. Susai Raj

"I have come to do your will, O God" has been the echo at the heart of Fr. Susai



### **Ordination of Dn. Susai and receiving Papal Blessing**

Raj, as he has been anointed a priest for Buxar diocese in his home parish of Muhaiyur (Pondichery, T.N.) on 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 2020, by the local ordinary, Most Rev. Neethinathan. **Fr. Susai Raj**, the youngest of the 7 children of Mr. R. Muthusavari and Late Antoniammal, is the 17<sup>th</sup> priest of Buxar diocese and the 61<sup>st</sup> priest from his parish! **Frs. James A., Anil Benet Cruz, Manoj Kumar and Christu Raj** CMF represented Buxar diocese at the ordination and the Thanks-giving Mass on the 4<sup>th</sup>. As a gesture of solidarity the four priests from Buxar put a shawl around the 'ordinandi' at the end of the First Mass, when the papal blessing also was read out.

### ➔ CBCI

The XXXIV Plenary Assembly of CBCI took place on 13-19 Feb. 2020, 192 bishops attending, including **Bp. Sebastian K.** Its theme was DIALOGUE: The Path to Truth and Charity. Some points that emerged in the assembly were: Unity in diversity \* Dialogue with the poor, Dalits, Tribal people, nature, the

unborn\* D. of peace. The assembly in its Final Statement made a fervent appeal to all concerned to deal with nationalism, patriotism, totalitarianism etc. The authorities have to erase the sense of fear, anxiety etc. spreading in the country especially among the religious minorities. Dissent is not to be construed as unpatriotic. Democracy cannot be built on monologue.

The prelates said that they will take necessary disciplinary actions against offenders, irrespective of their standing in the Church. They agreed to "constitute mechanism with necessary infrastructure to redress cases of sexual abuse", leading to immediate relief for survivors.

### ➔ Inauguration of New Centre

For the first time in history Holy Eucharist was celebrated at *Bhagawanpur* by Bp. Sebastian. **Fr. Thomas Vettu**, who moved in Jan. 2020 into a small priest's residence constructed in the four acre land



### **After the inaugural Eucharist in the Chapel**

surrounded Kaimur hills, about 12 km away from Bhabua towards South, invited priests and religious especially from the deanery to join in the blessing cum inauguration of the Center (the 17<sup>th</sup> one). All those who went there fell in love with the place at the first sight. The occasion was marked by planting of saplings. The guests had to return with much reluctance, leaving Fr. Thomas in the hands of God and a dog, donated by Notre Dame sisters from Chenari, to guard him! Special gratitude to **Fr. D. Amalan** and **Bro. Francis Lal**, who were instrumental in the purchase of land and building the residence, not to mention the contacts made with the local people.

### ➔ CDPI

**Diocesan Priests National Congress held in Vailankanni** The Conference of the Diocesan Priests of India (CDPI) held its annual conference at

Vailankanni on 28-31 Jan. 2020. The participants were 700 in number representing Latin dioceses in



**CDPI MEMBERS AT THE CONFERENCE, CHENNAI** India. The programme kicked off with sharing on the theme, "The joy of Priesthood", by priests from all the regions. Four panel discussions addressed the themes: 1. Self identification of the joy of priesthood 2. Identification of priesthood by others 3. The role of diocesan priests in building up joyful communities 3. Diocesan priests and alternate ministries today.

CDPI began in 2001 and it was recognized as an association of diocesan priests in 2008 by CCBI and its revised statutes were finally approved in 2014. The objectives of CDPI are to strengthen the relationship by building up unity among priests and to deepen fraternity between bishops and priests, to continue ongoing formation in accordance with pastoral spirituality and signs of the time and to widen the pastoral bond among priests beyond the borders of the respective dioceses and create a web of mutual support in realizing the reign of God locally and in the universal church.

Along with 15 priests from Bihar Region **Frs. Arogyaswamy Gotluri** and **Andrews Raja** participated in the Conference.

**Fr. Gotluri**

#### ➔ **CDPI & CPCI**

Referring to CDPI the editor of CPCI Bulletin (Feb. 2020), 'Prophetic Voice', has given some brotherly comments on 'Living Priesthood Joyfully'. "CPCI wishes our brother priests all the best for the National Congress".

At this juncture some clarification on these two associations of the diocesan priests may be in place. CPCI (Catholic Priests' Conference of India) emerged, when some like-minded diocesan priests, who realized the need of strengthening the

Presbyterium, developing the diocesan priests' spirituality and looking beyond the routine and customary way of priestly ministry, came together to share to be genuine ministers of Christ. CPCI obviously had a glorious past. It created ripples in the life of the Indian Church and in particular in the life of the diocesan priests, who realized the need of strengthening the Presbyterium, developing the diocesan priests' spirituality and looking beyond the routine and customary way of priestly ministry. As a result many priests have taken up alternate ministries and the Presbyterium has started experiencing a new way of living as well as ministering. Despite the fact of some CPCI members being elected to serve as Bishops and many bishops encouraging the CPCI movement, some bishops were indifferent, if not critical of the activities of CPCI. At present though the number of CPCI is much reduced its quality still remains. In the recent past CPCI has sponsored the studies of many students from Khandamal area. It supports priests in adapting new ways of being ministers of the Church with alternate ministries.

Then there came the auspicious moment in the life of CCBI that the bishops awakened to the fact that it is imperative for the diocesan priests to have their own association! Thus CDPI (The Conference of Diocesan Priests of India) was born and every diocesan priest became an automatic member of the same. At present to a certain extent CDPI is doing what the CPCI is supposed to do. If my information is correct, the CPCI members are encouraged to be actively involved in CDPI. Some of them actively (true to their nature!) participated in the recently concluded CDPI Conference.

**J.A.**

#### ➔ **BUDSS: Recent Activities**

From October 2019 the BUDSSS team was tirelessly working to make the small scale farmers of Chausa block in Buxar district to make their farm cultivation more productive and nutritional. They have formed themselves in to Farmer Groups, registered as *Khadya Suraksha Samuhs* for women farmers and *Hritak Kisan Samuhs* for Men farmers. Thus, we have 41 such farmer groups in 20 villages of the above mentioned Chausa block. The members of these groups are getting different kinds of training on organic farming, the importance of soil testing, seed selection, seed banks, kitchen garden, organic fertilizer, organic pesticides, farmer clubs, farmer



production organizations, and organic food production cum supply centers. To support the farmers we had an Exposure Programme for one farmer each from all 41 groups in Gorakhpur DSS. By such an exposure all the farmers, including the *Saksham* team of BUDSSS, were inspired and energized to continue their many initiatives in agricultural field with more commitment and dedication. We also appreciate the warm welcome we received at PGSS (Purvanchal Gramin Sewa Samiti, Gorakhpur under the Leadership of Fr. Jaison.

The same with our village animators/ teachers of 37 NFE centers in *Musahartolas* with another exposure programme to Madhubani Social Center (PRABHAT, Sakri). Here, too, the teachers from Rajpur and Itarhi blocks and Dhansoi area of ICM sisters, of Buxar district along with Kargahar block of Rohtas district, Kudra block of Kaimur district were inspired and encouraged to continue their commitment and dedication to educate and organize the *Musahar* communities of these areas to a better socio-economic and political development. 37 teachers, 6 Supervisors and two coordinators and two of our office staff with **Fr. Manoj and Sudeep** made this team to PRABHAT, Sakri, and Madhubani. All of them were extremely happy to learn that the *Musahar* communities are going ahead with the assistance and direction of **Prabhat** Staff. We also appreciate the warm welcome we received from Sakri under the leadership of **Frs. Anand and Jose Vadassery**.

Over the last six months we were also able to organize awareness programmes in 6 villages, on issues like Cleanliness, Organic farming, Forestation, Earth Day etc.

## 2. CELEBRATIONS !

- **Fr. Francis Mattathilani**, the senior most among the diocesan priests is also the first one to hit gold. Having been ordained on 06.12.1971 he has just entered the 50<sup>th</sup> year of his ordination. The whole diocese salutes the Jubilarian and pray that the jubilee year be a period of special blessings of God.
- The finale of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Sr. Janet CJ took place at "Chirag" with a solemn Eucharist by Bishop Sebastian. Many priests and religious along with a few villagers joined in praising and thanking God for the 50 years of Sr. Janet's committed life. CONGRATULATIONS Sr. Janet!

The OCD community at Koath invited all the priests in the diocese to celebrate the feast of the local superior, Fr. Nirmal OCD on 23/02. OCDs celebrate the feast of the superior in a BIG way. As they are moving out of the diocese soon, this occasion was used to bid farewell to fellow priests in the diocese.

### Exhibition at St. Mary's school, Amolia

20<sup>th</sup> of Feb. all road lead to St. Mary's Eng. Medium school at Amolia. The school family got their acts together for the event and provided an occasion for *Children, teachers and the Management at the exhibition*



the parents and friends to visit the school and see the extracurricular talents of their wards. The campus wore a festive look for the science & crafts exhibition and the children made merry feasting on *Jalebi*, Eggs, *Samosas* and Ice creams from the stall put up in the campus.

Parents joined their little ones and they too reveled on the occasion.

Congrats to the hard work of the teachers and the students along with the management for the success of the event.

## 3. MEETINGS/SEMINARS

- ❖ **The Disciples** were at SD on 19-31 January to do their recollection, directed by Fr. Melchior SDB, who invited them to Itarhi for the feast of St. Don Bosco on 31/01.
- ❖ **Christian Life Commission:**
  - **Marriage Preparation Course:** Buxar diocesan marriage preparation course has been organized from the 24<sup>th</sup> noon to 29<sup>th</sup> noon of March, 2020, at Sewa Dham.
  - **Diocesan Pastoral Council:** This year too we will have our 'Diocesan Pastoral Council' on the day of Chrism mass, which is scheduled on **31<sup>st</sup> of March, 2020**.

**Theme:** “Church - A community in Dialogue”. This theme is envisaged in line with the theme of Indian Church (CBCI) for this year; it is also thought fit to see the theme at the background of CAA & NRC.

- **Pastors' Meet:** In view of enhancing a common understanding and collaboration between Parish Priests and the Secretary of Christian life commission, and to collectively plan the pastoral activities in the diocese, this meeting is envisaged on 21<sup>st</sup> March, in Sewa Dham, at 9:00 a.m. (Fr. Anil Benet)

#### 4. VARIA

##### ● Did You Know?

- India is listed among top 10 countries of anti-Christian violence. 29 missionaries were killed worldwide in 2019 (Fides). Christians faced 1,774 hate crimes in four years.
- Catholic population of S. Korea grows by 50% in 20 years.
- Indian Diaspora, the largest in the world (17.5 million: UN).
- Pope Francis: “So many people live without knowing what goes on in their hearts”
- Shanti Sadan, a three-storey building in Benaulim, Goa will be the new Secretariat Extension of CCBI. The commissions for Liturgy and Family will operate from there. The other Secretariat buildings are: 1. Proclamation, Pachmarhi (MP) 2. Youth, Bethania (Faridabad) 3. PMO, Ulsoor (Bangalore) 4. Headquarters, CCBI Centre (Bangalore).
- The Dicastery of the Laity, the Family and Life is to organize the first International Congress of Pastoral Ministry of the Elderly at the request of the Holy Father.
- Cardinal Tagle of Manila is the new Prefect of Propoganda Fide. Cardinal George Alanchery is the President of KCBC and Cardinal Oswald Gracias the President of CBCI.
- Red Wednesday' campaign has become an official Church celebration in Philippines. It is promoted by the Church in Need (ACN) to encourage people to stand up for religious freedom.
- Graham Stains and his two sons Philip (10) and Timothy (6) were remembered on January 23, the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of their martyrdom –burnt alive. With the cancerous growth of hate crimes against the religious minorities, our Mother Land continues to be bathed in the blood of her children.
- Reprehensible mass kidnapping has become very common in Nigeria. In January 2020 four seminarians and in March one priest have been kidnapped.
- North Korea received the number one spot for the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as the hardest place in the world to be a Christian. China is the 23<sup>rd</sup> and India the 10<sup>th</sup> in the list. Christianity is on the verge of extinction in Iraq and Syria. China has been building a “blueprint for persecution”. (World Watch List 2020)
- On the initiative of the Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life, some 550 experts and pastoral agents from 60 countries will gather in Rome to reflect and find answers to: What has the Church to say in the face of “revolution of longevity”?
- Twenty nine missionaries (6 laymen, 2 women religious, 2 men religious, one permanent deacon and 18 priests have been killed in the year 2019 in the world over)
- First woman: Pope Francis elevated Dr. Fransesca Di Giovanni (66), an undersecretary for multilateral affairs in the Vatican Secretariat of State to a managerial position on January 15,2020.
- The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the declaration of Rome as the capital of Italy to take place in 2025. It is to be an ordinary Jubilee.
- **Prayer Cell :** An elderly couple has filled the vacuum of the prayer cell at Buxar parish created by the departure of a mother and daughter, who had started the programme, thanks to FIAT that is making the needed arrangements.

- **Hearty Welcome :**

➤ **The Disciples**, Srs. Carmela and Felicita to Bhabua. They, residing in the building, where Fr. Thomas resided, will move out to the villages for their usual ministry. Although The Disciples usually have their residence with the people in the villages, Bhabua is an exception. It is reported that Koath mission is missing the two sisters. It must be vice versa too. Certainly absence makes the heart fonder.

- **Heart-felt Gratitude to :**

**Fr. Sudeep Chacko S.J.**, who, being the Director of BUDSSS, very effectively animated the social work activities in the diocese. We accompany him by our valuable prayers, as he is assigned to undertake pioneering social work in a virgin land in Lucknow diocese.

**Fr. Christu Raj C.M.F.**, who was the Diocesan Youth Directed and infused a lot of life in the youth of the diocese, especially through the Year of Youth. He is lined up to study Canon Law in Rome. After being very loyal to his mission, he is now commissioned to be a canon lawyer and we wish him all success in his studies.

- **Ordination Anniversary :**

- ❖ **Fr. Thomas Vettu:** 10/4
- ❖ **Fr. Anand Kumar:** 19/4

- **Birth Day :**

- ❖ **Fr. Sudeep Chacko S.J.** 08/03,
- ❖ **Fr. D. Amalan** on 25/3

- **Upcoming Events :**

- ❖ Catechists' Exposure Programme, Pachamari, 05-14 March
- ❖ Handing over of Koath Parish by OCDs – 15 March
- ❖ Priests' Recollection – 20 (pm) March
- ❖ Pastors' Meeting - 21 March
- ❖ Marriage Preparation Course, SD, 24-29 March

- ❖ Chrism Mass and Pastoral Council Meeting – 29 March

- **VISITORS TO THE DIOCESE :**

- ❖ On 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. **Sr. Volma Noronah SSps**, Provincial of the Holy Spirit sisters.
- ❖ 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. **Sr. Annie Thomasia CSS**, (Superior General of Samaritan Sisters), **Sr. Rose Mary CSS**, Provincial of the Samaritans, **Sr. Shalini CSS**, General Procurator of Samaritans.
- ❖ 29<sup>th</sup> Feb. **Fr. Mark OCD**, (Delegate Superior) and his Councilors, OCD Ranchi.

### **VALIANT FAITH**

The founder of a prominent non-denominational movement in India, seeking unity among the followers of Christ realised that the “gap” in Protestant history can be filled only by being part of the apostolic Church. Sajith Joseph (36), a travelling preacher for more than a decade with his family and 50 members of his movement was received into (came back to) Catholic Faith on 21 Dec. 2019. The group called Grace Community Global has around two million followers in 30 countries. This group now will be under the diocese of Punalur as a Catholic association. (Courtesy: EXAMINER, Jan. 25-31, 2020)

A senior church leader of Nigeria, Rev LawanAndimi abducted in Jan. 2020 has reported now been killed by Bokoharam. In captivity he said: “I have never been discouraged because all conditions that one finds himself is in the had of God. I still believe that God who made them to act in such a way is still alive and will make all arrangements. By the grace of God I'll be together with my wife, children and all my colleagues. Don't cry. Don't worry, but thank God for everything. Thank you.”

Kobe Bryant, one of the greatest basketball player of all time, who died in a helicopter crash with his daughter(13) on 26 Jan. 2010, had connected his Catholic faith to a family commitment to help the poor, through the Kobe & Vanessa Bryant Family Foundation to help the poor. He, considered to be a model husband and father used to be spotted at weekday Mass in California. (CNA)

## OBITUARY

**Fr. Xavier Varghese (1930-2020)** was a very popular pastor in Itarhi parish from 1981 to 1988. Virender



from Chilibili village, now a college professor said: "If **Fr. Xavier** had not encouraged and supported us in our studies, me and my family members would not have been what we are today". From 1999 Fr. Xavier was doing special spiritual ministry in South. On the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 he expired with a stroke he had suffered. He was buried in his home parish cemetery, Ullala, Vaikom on 10/02.

**Fr. George Theruvan (1930 – 2020)**, popularly known as

**Fr. T.D. George** spent 13 years of his priestly ministry in the present diocese of Buxar: Piro, 1967 – 1973 and



Buxar, 1973 -1980. After being in Buxar from 1980 to 1987 he continued to serve the present area under the diocese of Buxar. In 1994 he retired to Prerana, Patna. Though age was telling on him, he maintained a young spirit with sharp memory and gracious smile till the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2020. That day after having lunch in Prerana with his comrades, one of whom was **Fr. Joseph Mattathilani**, his own cousin, he went to his room for rest. That time he quietly slipped into his eternal home. His funeral service took place on 11/02 in Kurji parish officiated by **Archbishop William D'Souza** and **Bishop Sebastian Kallupura**, attended by many priests, religious and laity along with a few family members of his.

**Bro. K.C. Joseph SJ (82)** went for his eternal reward on 7/2 and his burial took place on 9/2. He will be

fondly remembered for his gentle way of serving with a contagious smile, such was the experience of all when he was ministering in Ara from 2000 to 2007.

**"May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace".**

Visitors to our diocese:

### Bishop's Programme March-april 2020

#### MARCH

- 02-0 : Caritas India Program, Bhopal
- 05 : BRBC meeting + Archbishop's B'day, Patna.
- 06 : Finance Committee Meeting, Patna.
- 07 : Womens' Day celebration, *Chirag*
- 08 : Women's Day Celebration, Buxar.
- 12 : Patna Finance Committee Meeting
- 15 : Koath Parish.
- 16-17 : Delhi, NISCORT GB Meeting.
- 20-21 : Priests' Recollection & Meeting
- 22 : Golden Jubilee of Sr. Vandana Sc, Amulya
- 24 : Consult, Patna.
- 26-27 : Caritas India, Delhi.
- 28 : Marriage Preparation Course, Buxar.
- 29 : Mass for Fr. Theruvan, Buxar & Shahpur Retreat Mass.
- 31 : Chrism Mass + Pastoral Council Meeting, Buxar.

#### APRIL

- 05 : Palm Sunday, Buxar.
- 09 : Maundy Thursday, Buxar
- 12 : Easter, Chenari +Buxar.
- 14 : Church Blessing, Bhagalpur.
- 18 : Jubilee of Sr. Ancy CJ, Gulni
- 26 to
- May 03 : CBCI, CCBI Meetings, Bangalore.

#### LENTEN QUOTES !

*"There are ways of being crucified that do not involve rough wood or heavy nails, but a love beyond our capacity to love, which means a love that has been given to us by God..."*

*- Catherine Doherty*

*"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."*

*- Blessed Teresa of Calcutta*