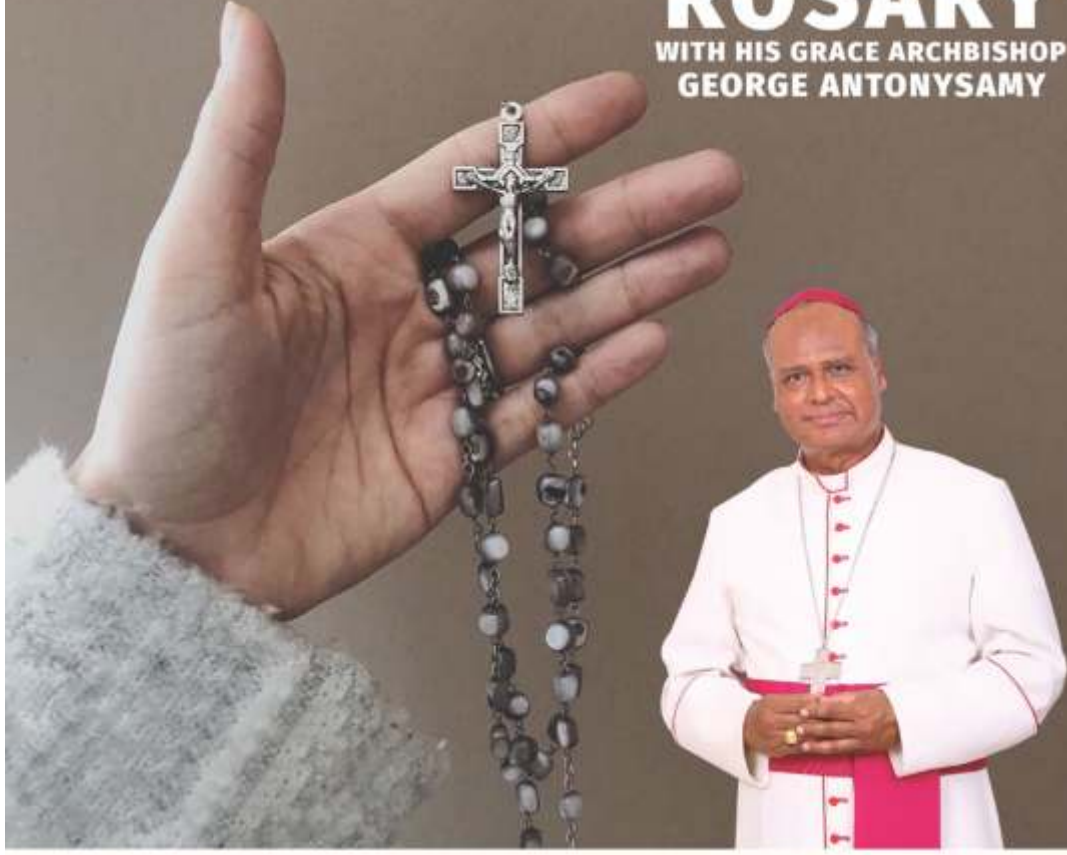


Rosary for each Parish intention and Easter blessings

LIVE FROM SANTHOME CATHEDRAL - DAILY 7:30 PM
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DAILY ROSARY

WITH HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP
GEORGE ANTONYSAMY



குடும்பமாக அமர்ந்து செபமாலை சொல்லுங்கள். இறைவன் இந்த பயங்கரமான கொள்ளை நோயிலிருந்து உலகத்தையும், நம் குடும்பங்களையும் காத்தருளுமாறு செபிப்போம்.

திருத்தந்தை பிரான்சிஸ

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நிறைவாழிவு

சென்னை - மயிலை உயர்மறைமாவட்ட செய்திமலர்

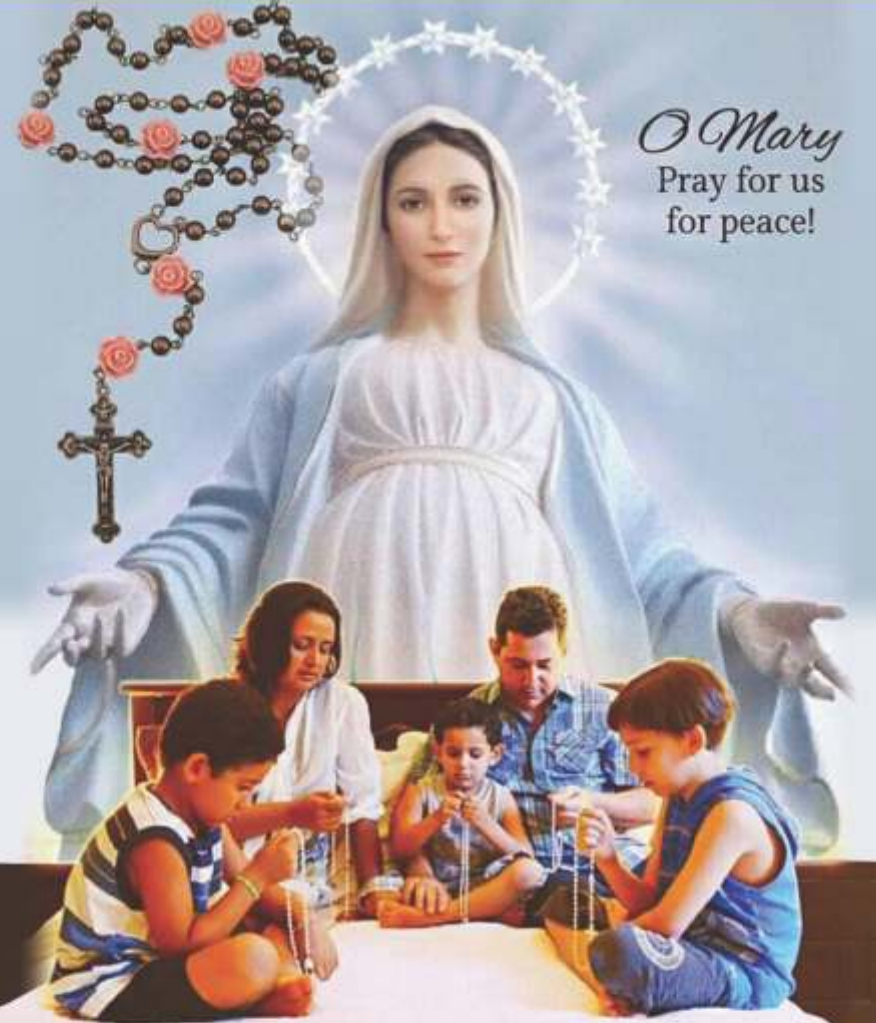
Life in Abundance

Newsletter of the Archdiocese of Madras - Mylapore

மே - 2020

கிதழ் - 5

தவிச்சுற்றுக்காக மட்டும்



O Mary
Pray for us
for peace!

"If families give Our Lady fifteen minutes a day by reciting the Rosary, I assure them that their homes will become, by God's grace, peaceful places."

- FATHER PATRICK PEYTON -



Supportive help to the needy given by our Archbishop



Feast day of our Archbishop



Relief works by Priests Religious, Youth, Laity and Prison Ministry India team across the Archdiocese.



Funeral ceremony of Mr. Hirudayaraj, F/o. Fr Thangakumar



Archbishop Speaks....

The Risen Person of Peace

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus,

“Peace be with you” are the very first words that the Risen Jesus spoke to his disciples. As we know well, this was a common everyday greeting of Jews in Palestine. However, this traditional expression of greeting, attains a new meaning and significance when it is uttered by the Risen Lord to his disciples. Peace ceases to be just a concept. Peace becomes a person in the Risen Lord. The Risen Jesus reveals himself as the shalom of God.

In the books of the Old Testament, we discern a remarkable evolution in the understanding of peace. We do have references in the Old Testament where God is identified with peace. For example, Gideon, a Judge of Israel builds an altar and calls it, ‘The Lord is peace’ (Judges 6:24). Peace is identified with God’s presence (Numbers 6) and is also one of the key images and words that the Old Testament uses to describe the salvation of God. However, in its general conception, peace is understood as the cosmic order that God had established in the creation (Genesis 1), as the right relationship established in the covenant with His people (Exodus 20), as a reward for fidelity (Ezekiel 34), justice (Isaiah 32) and trust (Isaiah 26) and as a fruit of a harmonious relationships between persons .

Nevertheless, after the fall of Judah and the subsequent period of exile, the notion of peace begins to change considerably. Prophets begin to announce God’s intervention in favour of a future restoration of Shalom. The era of shalom was envisioned to be one that would encompass the whole world with its centre in Zion (Isaiah 60–61). This proclaimed day of salvation eventually becomes linked to the day of the arrival of the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6-7), a prince who is God’s anointed one (Isaiah 61:1). Thus, we see a gradual transformation of peace from being a concept or a reward, to a future promise and mark of the awaited Messiah and the kingdom that he would establish forever.

In his Gospel and the book of Acts, Luke proclaims Jesus as one who brings peace on earth. Matthew and Luke affirm that peace is received by anyone who is receptive of God’s salvation offered in Jesus. All the gospels affirm univocally that the disciples were sent as missionaries of peace carrying with them, the peace of Jesus, the peace that is Jesus. In Paul, the identification of peace with Jesus reaches its epitome. God is a God of peace (1 Corinthians 14:33) and Christ is himself the

peace between us (Ephesians 2:14). So, when the Risen Lord appears to his disciples and pronounces the words, “Peace be with you”, he is not just employing the customary words of Palestinian greeting. He is announcing the realisation of what the prophets had announced. He is demonstrating the final stage of the evolution of peace from a concept to a person. He is effectively proclaiming that shalom has been restored and that the day of salvation has dawned. They are now in the era of shalom that would eventually transform the entire world.

In this Easter season, as we experience the presence of the Risen Lord in prayer and meditation, I invite you to receive with open hearts the peace that the Risen Jesus offers all of us. Confined to our homes in this period of isolation and social distancing, anxious about the pandemic that is threatening our lives, let us turn to the hope of peace promised in the resurrected Jesus. We draw courage from the transformation that this peace of Christ worked in the disciples who were in a similar situation of fear, isolation and confinement. As in the case of his disciples, Jesus continues to offer us his peace as the sign of the Spirit (Romans 8:6), the hallmark of the Gospel (Ephesians 6:15) and a concrete experience of God’s kingdom (Romans 14:17).

The experience of the peace of the Risen Jesus effectively transforms us into instruments of peace. Our families derive the necessary strength to become a community of peace (Mark 9:50) and ministers of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5). Our experience of peace in the Risen Lord draws us closer to those in need of peace. It is in line with this conviction, that the Archdiocese continues to connect to those in need of material, psychological and spiritual aid during this difficult time of confinement. We have established helplines, shared our resources and we continue to actively collaborate with the government, voluntary organisations, health officials, etc for the remedy, recovery and rehabilitation of the vulnerable sections of our society.

The Risen Peace of God has called each of us to this mission of peace. As St Paul reminds us, “The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful”. (Colossians 3:15). In the face of all challenges, we continue to positively witness to the power of the peace of the Risen Lord. May the blessed mother the queen of peace intercede for us.

With prayerful wishes,

+ *George Antonysamy*

† Most Rev Dr George Antonysamy
Archbishop of Madras-Mylapore



இயேசுவின் உயிர்த்த இறை அமைதி

இறை இயேசுவில் அன்பார்ந்த சகோதர, சகோதரிகளே!

உயிர்த்த இயேசு தன்னுடைய சீடர்களுக்கு தோன்றி பேசிய இறை வார்த்தைகள், 'உங்களுக்கு அமைதி உரித்தாகுக'. நாம் அனைவரும் அறிந்தபடி பாலஸ்தீனத்தில் வாழ்ந்த யூதர்கள் ஒருவர் மற்றவரை வாழ்த்துவதற்கு பயன்படுத்திய பொதுவான வாழ்த்து மொழி இது என்றாலும் உயிர்த்த இயேசுவின் உதடுகள் இவ்வார்த்தைகளை உச்சரிக்கும் போது இந்த வாழ்த்து புது அர்த்தமும், மகத்துவமும் பெறுகிறது.

அமைதி, கருத்து வடிவத்திலிருந்து உண்மையான மனித உருவம் எடுக்கிறது. ஆம், உயிர்த்த இயேசுவில் அமைதி மனிதத்துவம் பெறுகிறது. உயிர்த்த இயேசுவே இறைவனின் அமைதி. பழைய ஏற்பாட்டு நூல்களில் அமைதியின் புரிதலைக் குறித்த வளர்ச்சியை நாம் காண முடிகின்றது. பழைய ஏற்பாட்டில் ஒரு சில பகுதிகளில் இறைவன் அமைதிக்கு இணையாக சித்தரிக்கப்படுகிறார். உதாரணமாக இஸ்ரவேலின் நீதித் தலைவரான கிதியோன் இறைவனுக்கென ஒரு பீடத்தைக் கட்டி அப்பீடத்திற்கு 'ஆண்டவரே அமைதி' என்று பெயர் சூட்டுகிறார். (நீதி.6:24) அமைதி இறைப்பிரசன்னத்தோடு ஒப்பிடப்படுகிறது (எண்.6). இறைவனின் மீட்பை சித்தரிக்க பயன்படுத்தப்படும் வார்த்தைகளில் உருவங்களில் ஒன்றாக அமைதி திகழ்கின்றது. என்றாலும் கூட பழைய ஏற்பாட்டில் பொதுவான பார்வையில் அமைதி என்பது படைப்பில் இறைவன் உண்டாக்கிய சீர்நிலையாகவும் (தொநா.1), தன் மக்களோடு இறைவன் செய்துக் கொண்ட உடன்படிக்கையில் நிறுவப்பட்ட உறவுமுறையாகவும் (விப.20) நம்பிக்கைக்கும் (எசே.33), நீதிக்கும் (எசா.32), நம்பகத்தன்மைக்கும் (எசா.26) கிடைக்கப்பெறும் பலனாகவும், ஒருவர் மற்றவருடனான சமாதான உறவில் கிடைக்கப்பெறும் அனுபவமாகவும் சித்தரிக்கப்படுகின்றது.

எனினும் யூதாவின் எழுச்சிக்கு பிறகும், அதன் பிறகு விளைந்த நாடு கடத்தப்படுதல் அனுபவத்திற்கு பிறகும் அமைதியின் புரிதல் குறிப்பிடத்தக்க வகையில் மாற்றம் பெறுகின்றது. அமைதியை மீண்டும் நிலைநாட்ட வேண்டி இறைவனின் குறுக்கிடுதலில் இறைவாக்கினர்கள் முன்னுரைக்கின்றனர். இந்த அமைதியின் புதிய காலம் சீயோனை மையமாக கொண்டு உலகமனைத்தையும் ஆட்கொள்ளும் (எசா.60:61). இவ்வாறு அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட மீட்பின் தினமானது அமைதியின் இளவரசர் வரும் நாளோடு தொடர்பு படுத்தப்படுகின்றது. இவ்வளவரசரே இறைவனின் அருட்பொழிவு பெற்றவர். (எசா.61:1) இவ்வாறு கருத்து வடிவத்திலும் வெகுமதியாகவும் கருதப்பட்ட அமைதி காலப்போக்கில் இறைவனின் வாக்குறுதியாகவும் மெசியாவின் அடையாளமாகவும், அவர் நிறுவ இருந்த இறையாட்சியின் சிறப்பு தன்மையாகவும் விவரிக்கப்படுகின்றது. தனது நற்செய்திலும், திருத்தாதர் பணி நூலிலும் லூக்கா, இயேசுவை உலகிற்கு அமைதியை கொண்டு வருபவராக சித்தரிக்கின்றார். இயேசுவில் வழங்கப்பட்ட இறைமீட்பை வரவேற்கும் எவருக்கும் இந்த அமைதி கிட்டும் என்று லூக்காவும், மத்தேயுவும் விவரிக்கின்றனர். அனைத்து நற்செய்திகளிலும் சீடர்கள் இயேசுவிடமிருந்தும், இயேசுவிலும் கிடைக்கப்பெறக்கூடிய அமைதியின் மறைப்பணியாளர்களாக அனுப்பப்படுகின்றனர். பவுலின் இறையியலில் இயேசு அமைதியின் மனித உருவமாக சித்தரிக்கப் படுகின்றார். இறைவன் அமைதியின் இறைவன் (1கொரி.14:33), மற்றும் கிறிஸ்து நம்மிடையே ஆன அமைதி (எபே.2:16). எனவே உயிர்த்த ஆண்டவர் தன்னுடைய சீடர்களுக்கு தோன்றி, உங்களுக்கு அமைதி உரித்தாகுக என்று வாழ்த்தும் போது, ஒரு பாரம்பரிய பாலஸ்தீன வாழ்த்து மொழியை மட்டும் அவர்

கூறவில்லை. மாறாக இறைவாக்கினர் முன்னுரைத்த அமைதியின் ஆட்சியை புதிய முறையில் அறிவிக்கின்றார். அமைதி, கருத்து வடிவத்திலிருந்து மனித வடிவம் பெறுகின்ற இறுதி நிலையில் தன்னில் வெளிப்படுத்துகின்றார். அமைதியின் ஆட்சியையும், மீட்பின் நாளையும் எதிர்நோக்கியிருந்த இஸ்ரவேல் மக்களுக்கும், உலகம் அனைத்திற்கும் அமைதியின் புதிய அரசாங்கத்தை இயேசு தன்னில் உதயமாக்குகின்றார். இந்த பாஸ்கா காலத்தில் நம்முடைய செபங்களிலும், தியானத்திலும் உயிர்த்த இயேசுவின் அனுபவத்தை பெறுகின்ற நாம், இந்த உயிர்த்த இயேசு கொண்டு வரும் அமைதி என்னும் தன் பிரசன்னத்தையும், அனுபவத்தையும் ஏற்றுக் கொள்வோம். வீடுகளில் தனிமைப்படுத்தப்பட்டு நம்மை சுற்றி நிலவும் COVID-19 தொற்றுநோயின் அசாதாரண சூழ்நிலையில் உயிர்த்த இயேசுவின் அமைதி தருகின்ற புதிய எதிர்நோக்கின் அனுபவத்திற்கு நாம் அழைக்கப்படுகின்றோம். இயேசுவின் அமைதி அனுபவம் சீடர்களில் ஏற்படுத்திய மாற்றம் இன்று நமக்கு நம்பிக்கை தரும் செய்தியாக அமைந்திருக்கின்றது. பிறரை சீடர்களுக்கு அளித்தது போல இறைமகன் இயேசு தன்னுடைய அமைதியை இன்று நமக்கு தூய ஆவியின் அடையாளமாகவும் (உரோ.8:6) நற்செய்தியின் தரக்குறியீடாகவும் (எபே.6:15) இறையாட்சியின் இன்றைய அனுபவமாகவும் (உரோ.14:17) வழங்குகின்றார்.

உயிர்த்த இயேசுவில் நாம் பெறுகின்ற அமைதியின் அனுபவம் நம்மை அமைதியின் கருவிகளாக மாற்றுகின்றது. நமது குடும்பங்கள் அமைதியின் குடும்பங்களாக மாற (மாற்கு.9:50) நாம் ஒப்புறவின் மறைப்பணியாளர்களாக மாற (2கொரி.5) ஊட்டம் பெறுகின்றோம். உயிர்த்த இயேசுவில் நாம் பெறுகின்ற அனுபவம் அமைதி தேவைப்படுகின்றவர்களிடம் நம்மை அழைத்துச் செல்கின்றது. இவ்வுண்மையை பிரதிபலிக்கும் விதத்தில் தான் நம்முடைய சென்னை-மயிலை உயர்மறைமாவட்டம் இன்றைய சூழலில் பொருளாதார, உளவியல் மற்றும் ஆன்மீக தேவையில் இருப்போரை ஆர்வத்தோடு தேடிச் சென்றுச் சந்தித்து, அவர்களுக்கு இன்றைய சூழ்நிலையில் நம்மால் ஆன உதவியை செய்ய தீவிரத்தோடு செயல்பட்டு வருகின்றது. திருஅவையின் பல்வேறு நிலைகளில் மற்றும் உரைகளில் தேவைப்படுகின்ற உதவிகளை நல்கிடவும், அரசு மற்றும் அரசு சாரா நிறுவனங்களுடனும் தொண்டு நிறுவனங்கள் மற்றும் சுகாதார அலுவலர்களோடும் ஒத்துழைத்து, மீட்பு மற்றும் சீரமைப்பு தேவைகளில் இருக்கும் சமுதாயத்தின் விளிம்பு நிலையில் உள்ள மக்களுக்கு தொண்டாற்றி வருவது நம்முடைய அமைதியின் மறைப்பணியாற்ற

உயிர்த்த இயேசுவின் அமைதி நம்மை அமைதியின் மறைப்பணியாற்ற அழைக்கிறது. தூய பவுலடியார் அறியுறுத்துவதைப் போல, 'கிறிஸ்து அருளும் அமைதி உங்கள் உள்ளங்களை நெறிப்படுத்துவதாக! அவ்வமைதிக்கென்றே நீங்கள் ஒரே உடலின் உறுப்புகளாக இருக்க அழைக்கப்பட்டீர்கள், நன்றியுள்ளவர்களாயிருங்கள்'. (கொலே.3:15) மேற்கண்ட அனைத்து சவால்களுக்கு மத்தியிலும், நாம் நேர்மறையோடு உயிர்த்த இயேசுவின் அமைதியின் ஆற்றலுக்கு தொடர்ந்து சான்று பகர்வோம். அமைதியின் அரசியான இறை அன்னை நமக்காகப் பரிந்து பேசுவாராக!

இறையாசீர்

+ George Anthonysamy



† பேராயர ஜாரஜ் அந்தோண்சாம்!
சென்னை - மயிலை உயர்மறைமாவட்டம்

**Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis
to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus’ suffering, and persevered in your faith. “Protectress of the Roman people”, you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy

and celebration may return after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

SECOND PRAYER

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

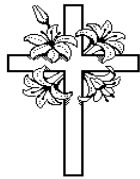
Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus. Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future. Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course. To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

Necrology

Rev Fr K M Anthony Xavier	01 05 2019
Rev Fr P Joseph	09 05 1987
Rev Fr A F Theodore	14 05 1964
Rev Fr Stephen Chollombel	20 05 1982
Rev Fr T J George	20 05 2002
Rev Fr J F Menezes	21 05 1981
Rev Fr A J Stanislaus	28 05 1981
Rev Fr J A Ross	29 05 1995



May their soul rest in peace!

திருத்தந்தை பிரான்சிஸ் அவர்களின் பொன்மொழி...

- ❖ ஒருவரையொருவர் சார்ந்து வாழ்வதற்கு புதிய பாடம்
- ❖ உயிர்த்த இயேசுவில் வாழ்வு, மரணத்தை வென்றது

Official Notifications

01 05 2020	St Joseph the Worker - May Day -
03 05 2020	Sts Philip and James Apostles - Feast
14 05 2020	St Mathias Apostle - Feast
24 05 2020	Ascension of the Lord - Solemnity
31 05 2020	Pentecost Sunday - Solemnity



Important Announcements

1. Dear Fathers, Annual Retreat for this academic year will be held in vicariate level. Kindly contact your respective VF's for further information.
2. All the Engagements of our Archbishop for May 2020 stand cancelled. In course of further developments on the present situation, appointments will be accepted.

The Chancellor

Prayerful Wishes on your Birthday

Rev Fr Perianayaga Irudayaraj J	01 05 1970
Rev Fr Papraj A	08 05 1986
Rev Fr James John Mathew	10 05 1980
Rev Fr Bosco Antony Ryan	13 05 1960
Rev Fr John Maria Joseph	13 05 1972
Rev Fr Leo Joseph	15 05 1976
Rev Fr Bosco Y F	17 05 1959
Rev Fr Dyson Raja R L	17 05 1990
Rev Fr Irudayaraj L A	18 05 1975
Rev Fr Inniah Christy	20 05 1967
Rev Fr Anthony Raj B I	24 05 1973
Rev Fr Abraham K T	31 05 1942
Rev Fr Thomas A	03 06 1969
Rev Fr Mathew K T	05 06 1950



திருத்தந்தை பிரான்சிஸ் அவர்களின் பொன்மொழி...

- ❖ இயேசுவின் துணையில் அனைத்து சவால்களையும் எதிர்கொள்ளலாம்
- ❖ விசுவாசிகள் எங்கு சென்றாலும் நற்செய்தி நூலை எடுத்துச்செல்ல வேண்டும்

Ordination Anniversaries

Rev Fr Daniel Simonraj	01 05 2011
Rev Fr Gabriel Belavendiram	03 05 1987
Rev Fr A Amal Raj	03 05 2003
Rev Fr A Bernard Lawrence	04 05 1986
Rev Fr Joseph Victor	04 05 1989
Rev Fr A John Andrew	04 05 1992
Rev Fr Antony Sebastian	05 05 1992
Rev Fr D F John Bosco	06 05 1985
Rev Fr Y F Bosco	07 05 1985
Rev Fr G Nambikkainathan	09 05 1987
Rev Fr H Thanga Kumar	09 05 2003
Rev Fr I Amalraj	10 05 1981
Rev Fr Antony Pancras	10 05 1994
Rev Fr Maria Devanesan	10 05 2003
Rev Fr Leo Joseph	10 05 2005
Rev Fr Peter Thumma	11 05 1988
Rev Fr N S Ignatius	11 05 1992
Rev Fr N A Charles Kumar	12 05 1989
Rev Fr F J X Eucharist	30 05 1991



Congratulations and Prayerful Wishes!

Scholarships

(Only for the College, Professional and Technical Courses)

The Archdiocese is operating the following scholarships: Archbishop Louis Mathias Scholarship, Bishop Carvalho Scholarship, Archbishop R Arulappa Scholarship, Archbishop Casimir Scholarship and Archbishop Arul Das James Jubilee Scholarship. The Satur Trust Scholarships for Anglo-Indian Community will be operated by the Chancellor. This Scholarship is meant for Anglo-Indian school and college students.

Application forms for these Scholarships are available in our diocesan website and in the chancery. Parish Priests can download the application forms and distribute it to the deserving and poor students. The filled in application forms should reach the Chancery on or before 30th June 2020. Only four forms for the parish can be accepted.

Admissions to the Archdiocesan Orphanages

The Application Forms for the Archdiocesan Orphanages are available in our diocesan website and in the chancery. Parish Priests can download the application forms and distribute it to the poor students. The filled in forms should reach the chancery.

A Prayer for Healing and Hope (COVID-19)

Oh God, our Loving Father and Mother,
You are our Hope, you are the eternal healer.
You have always held our hands
And walked with us closely.
We come to you at this moment of our weakness,
Your children stand before you with fear and anxiety,
Because we trust you.
We place before you the coronavirus epidemic,
That has infected a million people as of March
And killed more than lakhs worldwide.
May the dead rest in peace in your embrace.
Heal those who are affected
Comfort those who have lost their loved ones.
Strengthen our doctors, scientists, caretakers,
healthcare workers, Police and leaders,
May the good works we have begun
To combat the pandemic continue uninterrupted.
Unite all of us as one global human family.
Remove all panic and confusion,
Help us to reach out to our brethren
Who hunger, thirst and suffer
Without food and shelter these days.
We pray on our knees, from the depth of our hearts.
Spread your wings of love and protection
Save all of us from this tempest of COVID 19.
And bring back the smiles and joys we have lost.
(by Fr J Felix Raj SJ)



Holy Father's Prayer Intention - May 2020

Prayer intention for Evangelisation for Deacons:

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

நற்செய்தி அறிவிப்பிற்கான செபக்கருத்து - திருத்தொண்டர்களுக்கு:
வார்த்தைக்கும் ஏழைகளுக்கும் அவர்கள் செய்யும் சேவையில் உண்மையுள்ள திருத்தொண்டர்கள் முழு திருஅவைக்கு ஒரு உற்சாகமான அடையாளமாக இருந்திட நாங்கள் மன்றாடுகிறோம்.

LITURGICAL OVERVIEW OF THE MONTH

The month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary. The entire month falls within the liturgical season of Easter, which is represented by the liturgical colour white - the colour of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

FOCUS OF THE LITURGY

The Gospel readings for all the Sundays in May are taken from St John and are from Year A, Cycle 2.

May 3 rd 4 th Sunday of Easter	Jesus said, "I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."
May 10 th 5 th Sunday of Easter	Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
May 17 th 6 th Sunday of Easter	Jesus says "If you love me keep my commandments".
May 24 th Ascension or 7 th Sunday of Easter	Jesus tells his disciples to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
May 31 st Pentecost Sunday	Jesus gives His disciples the power to forgive sins.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DAYS - MAY 2020

03 May	World Press Freedom Day, World Laughter Day
05 May	World Asthma Day
10 May	World Mother's Day
11 May	National Technology Day
12 May	International Nurses Day
15 May	International Day of Families
17 May	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day
22 May	International Day for Biological Diversity
29 May	International Day of UN Peacekeepers
31 May	World No-Tobacco Day
01 Jun	Global Day of Parents, World Milk Day
05 Jun	World Environment Day

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH

1. Pope Francis has set up a new commission to study the Diaconate for women, the Vatican announced on April 8, 2020. The commission has 10 members, including five women, who are all European, and five men, two of whom are deacons from the United States. Its president will be Cardinal Giuseppe Petrocchi, Archbishop of L'Aquila, and its secretary will be the Rev. Denis Dupont-Fauville, an official of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

2. The Vatican announced on April 20, 2020, that two major international ecclesial events will be postponed. Director of the Holy See Press Office confirmed that Pope Francis, together with the Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life, has decided to postpone the World Meeting of Families and World Youth Day. The World Meeting of Families, scheduled to take place in Rome in June 2021, has been rescheduled for June 2022. Likewise, the next World Youth Day, set to take place in Lisbon in 2022, will now be held one year later, in August of 2023.

3. The Holy Father has appointed as Deputy Prefect of the Vatican Apostolic Library the distinguished Dr Timothy James Janz, scriptorgræcus and director of the Printed Books Department of the Vatican Apostolic Library on April 20, 2020.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

As Spring blossoms forth and we are surrounded by new life, we spend this month full of the joy of our Easter celebration and in anticipation of the coming of the Holy Spirit, our Consoler and Advocate.

The saints that we will focus on this month - those who have already shared in the rewards of the Resurrection - are St Joseph the Worker (May 1), St Athanasius (May 2), St Nereus & Achilleus, St Pancras (May 12), Our Lady of Fatima (May 13), St Matthias (May 14), St Isidore the Farmer (May 15), St John I (May 18), St Bernadine of Siena (May 20), St Christopher Magallanes (May 21), St Rita of Cascia (May 22), St Bede, St Gregory VII and St Mary Magdalene de Pazzi (May 25), St Philip Neri (May 26) and St Augustine of Canterbury (May 27).

The feasts of Sts Philip and James (May 3), St Damian the Leper (May 10) and the Visitation (May 31) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

CONGRATULATIONS AND PRAYERFUL BLESSINGS

Several organizations and individuals all over the world are doing their best to save people from the jaws of pandemic COVID 19. Thousands of doctors, nurses and healthcare workers are the front line soldiers in the fight against coronavirus pandemic. The police, suppliers of essential items and people involved in providing essential services take great risk. Innumerable are the persons and organizations involved in the fight against coronavirus by providing finance, medicine, personal protection equipments and food materials. God is working through all these individuals and organizations. Millions of people are sending their positive vibes and prayers for the people infected and affected by the deadly virus.

Our Historical Archdiocese has joined hands with state government and Voluntary agencies to help the victims. Church-run hospitals have converted some wings as dedicated quarantine blocks. Education institutions also support in various ways. Shelter homes offer food and place for the poor to stay. Many Church institutions and organizations provide food and shelter to migrant workers held up in various cities. A great salute to the Parish Priests, Superiors and the Youth and the faithful community for their magnanimous service to our people of God either rendering helping hands and staying at home praying and participating in the spiritual activities. Archbishop and the Curia wish and pray for them. Indeed, God is working through human beings.

Quotes of Pope Francis.....

- ❖ True peacemakers always seek reconciliation
- ❖ To be faithful is to praise God's fidelity
- ❖ Pandemic can be a 'place of conversion'
- ❖ A pure heart sees God
- ❖ Pray for persons suffering from unjust sentences
- ❖ Prayer Is What Opens the Door
- ❖ May we learn to listen in times of silence
- ❖ Church needs to be a field hospital
- ❖ After pandemic, humanity has 'antibodies of justice, charity'
- ❖ Money, vanity, gossip will always divide communities
- ❖ Jesus' love, mercy seen bringing 'comfort and hope' to all amid pandemic
- ❖ Thank you for sharing stories of hope

The Popes and the Rosary

This May, during the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pope Francis has invited the faithful to renew their love for the Most Holy Rosary, a prayer fully immersed in the Gospel. In this article, Vatican News looks at the dedication of various Popes throughout the centuries to this ancient devotion.

It is necessary to go back to the 15th century to Pope Sixtus IV to find when the Rosary was officially approved by the Catholic Church. The practice probably originated with the Cistercians in the two previous centuries as an aid for illiterate people. The recitation of prayers and psalms in succession, gradually became a series of 150 Hail Marys. Greeting Mary so many times was compared to offering her a wreath of roses, the "Rosary".

The Rosary over two centuries

Promoted by the Dominicans in the 15th century, the Rosary took the form of a meditation on the life of Christ, while the Our Father and the Hail Marys were recited. In the 16th century, the Dominican theologian, Antonio Ghislieri, who became Pope St Pius V, structured the Rosary around 15 mysteries. On 7 October 1571, he instituted the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. John Paul II in 2002 completed the Rosary with five new mysteries: The Luminous Mysteries were added to the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries. Between 1571 and 2002, the Popes never ceased to encourage the recitation of the Rosary. In September 1893, in the Encyclical *Laetitiae sanctae*, Leo XIII stated that he was "convinced that the Rosary, if devoutly used, is bound to benefit not only the individual but society at large", whose evils he denounced at the dawn of the second Industrial Revolution, which was deepening the imbalance between the social classes.

Prayer in difficult times

Pius XI foresaw the wave of National Socialism (Nazism) and Stalinism coming. In 1937, two years before the beginning of the Second World War, in his Encyclical *Ingravescentibus malis*, he observed that if the people of the twentieth century, "with its derisive pride, refuse the Rosary, there is an innumerable multitude of holy men of every age and every condition who have always held it dear". He addresses the faithful, asking them to recite the Rosary at home so that "the enemies of the divine name (...) may be finally bent and led to penance and return to the straight path, trusting to the care and protection of Mary". Pius XI added: "The Holy Rosary, besides, not only serves admirably to overcome the enemies of God and Religion, but is also a stimulus and spur to the practice of evangelic virtues which it injects and cultivates in our souls".

John XXIII recites the Rosary for new-borns

On May 4, 1963, while the Church was engaged in the Second Vatican Council, St John XXIII welcomed the first Italian Living Rosary pilgrimage, during which “Good Pope John” met many sick children. “You are dear to us, like the apple of our eyes,” the Supreme Pontiff said to them. “You are dear to us above all because, with the natural liveliness of your years, you are little children who pray,” he told them. He praised their “commitment to recite at least one decade of the Holy Rosary every day,” adding that a day without prayer is like “a sky without sun, a garden without flowers”.

Already in 1961, an attachment to the Apostolic Letter *Il religioso convegno*, noted that St John, in his daily Rosary, prayed for babies born in the past 24 hours, as he recited the third decade of the Joyful mysteries. He offered the “ten Hail Marys” in order to “recommend to Jesus all children born (...) from all human lineages, who, (...) by night, by day, have come into the world on the whole surface of the earth”.

In the Encyclical *Grata recordatio* of 1959, John XXIII encouraged daily recitation of the Rosary, affirming that the Rosary is an excellent means of meditative prayer, which, he said, “We never fail to recite it each day in its entirety”. He invited the faithful to pray the Rosary for the upcoming Ecumenical Council (Vatican II) and for “the renewed vigour of all the Christian virtues” expected of the Church.

In the wake of the Council, Pope St Paul VI dedicated an Apostolic Exhortation entitled *Marialis cultus* to Marian veneration in which he “intended to encourage the restoration, in a dynamic and more informed manner, of the recitation of the Rosary”. He also emphasized “the importance of a further essential element in the Rosary, in addition to the value of the elements of praise and petition, namely the element of contemplation. Without this the Rosary is a body without a soul, and its recitation is in danger of becoming a mechanical repetition of formulas”. St Paul VI goes on “to recommend strongly the recitation of the family Rosary”.

John Paul II's favourite prayer

St John Paul II, who himself was deeply devoted to the Virgin Mary (*Totus Tuus* was his episcopal motto), encouraged the recitation of the Rosary many times during the 27 years of his pontificate. In 2002 he published an Apostolic Letter dedicated specifically to the Rosary, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*. In it, he described the Rosary as a prayer which “in the sobriety of its elements” concentrates “all the *depth of the Gospel message in its entirety*”, and through which “the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer”. St John Paul II explains that in his youth he always gave an important place to this prayer, which was his favourite. He

had already confessed this in 1978 two weeks after his election. It was in this Letter that he proclaimed the year of the Rosary from October 2002 to October 2003, inviting the faithful to “*contemplate with Mary the face of Christ*”.

At the dawn of the third millennium, the Polish Pope stressed “the urgent need to counter a certain crisis of the Rosary, which in the present historical and theological context can risk being wrongly devalued, and therefore no longer taught to the younger generation”. Concerned then by the critical situation of the family “increasingly menaced by forces of disintegration on both the ideological and practical planes”, he proposed the Rosary as “an effective aid to countering the devastating effects of this crisis typical of our age”.

The New Springtime of the Rosary

Benedict XVI, too, wished to revitalize the recitation of the Rosary: “The Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia,” he said at the end of his prayer at the Roman Basilica of Saint Mary Major on 3 May 2008. “Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime”, he said. “Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre”.

Three years earlier, in a Message to young Catholics in the Netherlands, he wrote that “The recitation of the Rosary can help you learn the art of prayer with Mary’s simplicity and depth”. During an Audience in May 2006, Benedict XVI invited the faithful “to intensify the pious practice of the Holy Rosary”. He said to young spouses: “I wish you may make use of the recitation of the Rosary in your family as a moment of spiritual growth under the maternal gaze of the Virgin Mary”. Speaking to the sick, he urged them “to turn with trust to Our Lady through this pious exercise, entrusting to her all of your needs”. Again, difficult times

In October 2018, Pope Francis asked all the faithful to pray the Rosary every day, so that the Virgin Mary may help the Church in a period marked by “the revelation of sexual abuse, power and conscience on the part of clerics, consecrated persons and lay people, causing internal divisions”. Today Francis renews this invitation on the eve of the Marian month in 2020, in order to contemplate together “the face of Christ with the heart of Mary”. Praying the Rosary “will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial”, writes the Holy Father as he assures everyone, and especially “those suffering most greatly”, of his prayer.

- John Charles Putzolu

**RELIEF WORKS - A SHORT REPORT FROM THE
ARCHDIOCESAN TEAM**

The global pandemic as “a very disturbing phenomenon” that has left billions to grapple with its consequences. “Archbishop gave an awakening call to act as a catalyst and instrument to care for the needy. The teams for Counselling, Material Assistance and Spiritual Assistance strenuously carrying the mission of our Archbishop looked into the pandemic and subsequent lockdown have affected the most the homeless living on roadsides and slums. It has not spared rickshaw pullers, construction workers, domestic helpers, small vendors, and cleaners, although they have contributed to the city’s economy with their hard work. As the lockdown continued and the situation became grave, the team managed to animate various helps from different sources. Our friends, family members, Religious communities, Provincials, Priests and well-wishers began to send contributions both in form of money and materials. We used the money to procure food grains, rice, flour and lentils. It used to worry us when people called to say they were hungry. Here is a short report about the donations received and the parishes being reached and we will be reaching out to some more parishes in the coming days. We thank our Archbishop, the contributors from various end and the team members for the fulfillment of the mission in showing solidarity with the needy.

Donations Received

1. Society of St Vincent de Paul Madras Central Council
 2. Mr Arockiaraj and Mr Christopher = 5,000 (given to Korrukupet parish)
 3. Mr Arockiaraj and Mr Christopher = 5000 Mr Vinnarasu (R A Puram Parish)
 4. Mr Arockiaraj and Mr Christopher = 1,00,000 (one lakh)
 5. Mr Alexander, Muthaiyalpet = 20,000
 6. Mr William Kumar =10,000
 7. Family Commission= 25,000
 8. Thomas Amalraj = 10,000
 9. Britto Daniel = 28,000
 10. Bon Secours Sisters (Mandaveli) = 50 Bags of food materials
 11. Pastoral Centre = 20,000
 12. Fr Ponnaiah = 10,000
 13. Fr Victor = 20 bags of rice each 10 kg.
- Total donations received = Rs.2,33,000

Total money spent = 4,32,264 rupees. (3,92,264.00 + 40,000)

- On 3rd april 40 Irular families at Izhuppur Village in Trivellore District were given food materials (each worth of 700 rupees).
- On 3rd april 20 Irular families at Patrathangal in Trivellore district were given food materials.
- Number of parishes covered 14

1. Thiruvallangadu 150 flys.
2. Oragaradam 200 flys. (DC sisters)
3. Morai 180 flys.
4. Sathyamurthi Nagar 100 flys.
5. Kodungaiyur 40 flys.
6. GKM Colony 50 flys.
7. Ernavoor 40 flys.
8. Thiruvottiyur 40 flys.
9. Gandhi Nagar 50 flys.
10. Perumbakkam 40 flys.
11. Gandhipet 150 flys.
12. Melma Nagar 75 flys.
13. R A puram 40 flys.
14. Korrukupet 10 fys
15. Christian Workers Movement 105 flys.
15. Medicines distributed.
16. Mr Vinnarasu fly and friends - 5,000 Rs (Food materials)

Hope we will try to find some funds to help the pending groups.

Obituary

Rev Fr H Thangakumar, Parish Priest of Infant Jesus Church, Devi Nagar lost his beloved father Mr Hirudayaraj, aged 85, on 26th April 2020. The Funeral Mass was held on 27-04-2020 by our Archbishop at Chetpet. The Archdiocese offers heartfelt condolences to Rev Fr Thangakumar and his family members. We pray that the Lord may grant the deceased eternal rest.

May his soul rest in peace !