



KURNOOL VANI

NEWS LETTER - KURNOOL DIOCESE



July 2026

Issue 07

Vol XXXIX



Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
July -16

Feast of St Antony in Chapirevula



St Antony's feast at Y. Kothapalli



Clergy Recollection





KURNOOL VANI

THE MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE ROMAN
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF KURNOOL

July 2026

Issue 7

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD
Publisher

Rev. Fr. G. Inna Reddy
Editor in Chief

Fr. Naveen Arogya Raj
Consulting Editor

Jeevan Institute of Printing
Editing and Printing

CONTENTS

The Shepherd Speaks	02
Decree	05
Coummication from Bishop's Desk	17
Bishop's Programme	18
Communications	19
News	20
News From Jeevasudha Pastoral Centre (JPC)	31
News From Diocesan Educational Society (DESK)	33
News From Kurnnol Diocese Social Service Society (KDSSS)	34
Foundation Massess in the Diocese	40
The Days to Remember	40

The Shepherd Speaks

"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth." (John 16:13)

Dear Fathers, Brothers, Sisters and the beloved faithful of the diocese of Kurnool, Grace and Peace to you!

During His earthly ministry, Jesus patiently formed His disciples. They listened attentively to His words, witnessed His miracles and accompanied Him throughout His public life. Yet, despite all that they had seen and heard, they could not grasp the fullness of His message. Knowing their limitations, Jesus lovingly assured them: *"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth"* (Jn 16:12-13). These words remain profoundly meaningful for the Church today.



The Holy Spirit continues to accompany the Church. He does not reveal everything at once but gradually enlightens us, helping us to understand what is necessary at each stage of our journey. He leads us patiently, inviting us to grow in wisdom, responsibility and fidelity to the Gospel.

As a Diocese, we too are walking this journey of discernment. There are many important areas that require our careful attention if we are to strengthen the life and mission of our local Church. During the past months we have been working steadily on several pastoral priorities. We are attending to the regularization of our lands, buildings and institutional documents. We are strengthening parish pastoral structures through Parish Pastoral Councils, Finance Committees and various diocesan commissions.

We have initiated a diocesan-wide survey to understand the social realities and emerging needs of our people. This was followed by a consultative meeting with the priests, religious and others involved in the social apostolate, where we listened to their experiences, concerns and valuable suggestions. This journey of listening and discernment will soon lead to the preparation of a **Strategic Social Action Plan** for the Diocese, enabling us to carry out our social mission in a more coordinated and effective manner.

Likewise, after fruitful consultations with our youth leaders, we are preparing a **Directory for Youth Ministry** that will provide clear vision and practical guidelines for youth ministry in every parish, deanery and the diocese.

These are not isolated administrative exercises. They are part of our common effort to build a Diocese that is spiritually vibrant, pastorally organized and administratively responsible. Order is not opposed to the Spirit; rather, good order allows the gifts of the Spirit to flourish. Clear norms protect communion, ensure transparency and prevent unnecessary difficulties in the future.

I therefore request all our priests, religious and faithful to receive these initiatives with patience and openness. Every **new guideline requires time to understand and implement**. Let us not see norms as burdens but as safeguards for our mission. As St. Paul reminds us, *"God is not a God of confusion but of peace"* (1 Cor 14:33).

We also live in a rapidly changing world. The digital age has made our institutions more transparent than ever before. Records, finances, legal documents and administrative decisions are increasingly open to public scrutiny. Jesus Himself reminds us: *"There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, nor hidden that will not be made known"* (Lk 12:2). Transparency is no longer merely a legal requirement; it is a Gospel value. Therefore, let us strive to comply faithfully with the laws of the Church and the legitimate requirements of civil society. **Rules do not exist to restrict us; they exist to protect us. What we do correctly today will save us from many difficulties tomorrow.**

For this reason, I earnestly encourage all those responsible for our schools, institutions, parishes and diocesan establishments to ensure that every institution possesses the necessary approvals, registrations and statutory permissions. Do not postpone matters that require immediate attention. As the old saying wisely reminds us, *"A stitch in time saves nine."* *"Prevention is always better than cure"*.

At the same time, let us never forget that our greatest witness is not found in documents alone but in the way we treat people. Every person who approaches our institutions should experience the compassion of Christ. Speak kindly. Listen patiently. Respect every individual, irrespective of his or her

social or educational background. We have received years of formation; many of the people who come to us have not. They come with their hopes, fears and struggles. A gentle word, a patient hearing and a welcoming attitude can often prevent misunderstandings and heal wounds more effectively than any policy or regulation.

Finally, I wish to draw your attention to an important matter concerning the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Over the past months, several questions have been raised regarding Mass intentions and Eucharistic celebrations. After careful study of the universal law of the Church and in consultation with competent persons, I have issued a **Diocesan Decree on the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist** and Mass Intentions. This decree is published in the present issue of *Kurnool Vani*.

I request all our priests to read it attentively and implement it faithfully. The norms contained therein are not personal opinions nor newly invented regulations; they faithfully reflect the discipline of the universal Church. Fidelity to these norms is not merely an administrative requirement but a canonical obligation and an expression of our communion with the whole Church. Experience teaches us that small deviations today often become serious problems tomorrow. By observing the Church's discipline faithfully now, we safeguard both our ministry and the dignity of the Holy Eucharist for the future.

My dear brothers and sisters, every period of renewal demands patience, cooperation and trust. The Holy Spirit is gently leading our Diocese forward. Let us walk together with confidence, allowing Him to enlighten our minds, strengthen our hearts and guide our decisions. If we remain faithful in little things today, the Lord will surely bless our Diocese with greater fruits tomorrow.

May the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, continue to guide the Diocese of Kurnool into all truth, strengthen our communion and make each one of us joyful witnesses of Christ.

Invoking God's blessings,
✠ JOHANNES GORANTLA OCD
Bishop of Kurnool



DECREE Concerning the Collection, Administration, Recording and Celebration of Mass Intentions

“The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and, by that offering, participate in the Church’s concern for the support of its ministers and works.” (Canon 946)

1. CANONICAL AND ECCLESIAL FOUNDATION

The present Decree is promulgated in accordance with:

- **The Code of Canon Law**, especially:
 - *can. 381 §1 (the authority of the Diocesan Bishop);*
 - *can. 392 (the Bishop’s duty to ensure the observance of ecclesiastical discipline);*
 - *can. 945–958 (Mass offerings and obligations attached thereto);*
 - *can. 1276 (the Bishop’s vigilance over the administration of ecclesiastical goods);*
 - *can. 1284 (the obligations of administrators of ecclesiastical goods);*
 - *can. 537 (the Parish Finance Council).*
- The Instruction **Mos Iugiter** (Congregation for the Clergy, 22 February 1974), which clarified the theological and canonical nature of Mass offerings and reaffirmed the obligation of priests to celebrate faithfully the Masses entrusted to them.
- The Decree **Firmo** (Congregation for the Clergy, 1991), concerning the administration and transfer of Mass intentions.
- The Decree **The Pastoral Meaning of Mass Offerings** (*Il significato pastorale delle offerte per la celebrazione delle Messe*), promulgated by the Dicastery for the Clergy on 13 April 2025 and approved *in forma specifica* by the Holy Father Pope Francis, reaffirming the authentic meaning of Mass offerings, safeguarding the intentions of the faithful, excluding every appearance of commerce, and encouraging transparency and proper ecclesiastical administration.

These universal norms reaffirm that Mass offerings are acts of faith and ecclesial communion, intended principally for the support of the sacred ministry and always to be administered with the highest degree of honesty, accountability and pastoral charity.

PREAMBLE

The Most Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 11) and the greatest treasure entrusted by Christ to His Church. Through the Eucharistic Sacrifice, Christ continually sanctifies His people and gathers them into one Body. Every celebration of the Holy Mass is an act of worship offered to the glory of God and for the salvation of the living and the dead.

From the earliest centuries, the Christian faithful have requested that the Holy Mass be celebrated for particular intentions, accompanying their request with a voluntary offering. This venerable practice expresses their participation in Christ's sacrifice, their confidence in the efficacy of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, and their desire to support the sacred ministry entrusted to the Church.

The Church has carefully regulated this practice through her canonical discipline so that the intentions entrusted by the faithful may always be fulfilled faithfully, every appearance of commerce may be excluded, and the offerings may be administered according to justice, transparency and ecclesial responsibility.

In the Diocese of Kurnool, a longstanding practice has developed whereby Mass intentions are collected centrally and distributed equitably among the diocesan clergy. This practice promotes fraternity among priests, ensures an equitable distribution of Mass offerings, safeguards the confidence of the faithful, and reflects the communion that binds together the presbyterate of the Diocese.

Mindful of my responsibility as Diocesan Bishop to safeguard ecclesiastical discipline, promote sound administration of ecclesiastical goods, and protect the spiritual and temporal welfare of both the faithful and the clergy, and after appropriate discernment I hereby establish the following norms, which shall bind all priests, parishes, quasi-parishes, institutions, shrines and pastoral centres within the Diocese of Kurnool.

I. The Nature of Mass Offerings

Article 1

According to the constant tradition of the Church, every priest celebrating or concelebrating the Holy Eucharist may receive an offering so that the Mass may be applied for a particular intention (cf. can. 945).

Article 2

A Mass offering is never a payment for the Eucharist nor the purchase of spiritual benefits. Rather, it is a voluntary offering made by the faithful as an expression of their faith and participation in the Eucharistic Sacrifice.

Article 3

By these offerings, the faithful contribute principally to the support of the clergy entrusted with the ministry of the Gospel and thereby participate in the life and mission of the Church (cf. can. 946).

Accordingly, Mass intentions are **not ordinary parish income**, nor are they intended to finance the regular pastoral or administrative expenses of the parish. Their principal purpose is the support of the clergy through the canonical discipline established by the Church.

Article 4

Every Mass accepted with an offering constitutes an obligation in justice. The priest who accepts, or to whom an intention is entrusted, is bound in conscience to ensure that the Mass is celebrated faithfully for the intention received (cf. cann. 949 and 955).

II. DIFFERENT KINDS OF MASSES AND THEIR CELEBRATION

1. Foundation Masses (*Missae Fundatae*)

Through this provision, a family may make a **one-time donation to the Diocese**, which is invested, and the interest generated is used to celebrate **regular Holy Masses** for the repose of the soul of the deceased, in whose name the Foundation Mass is established. **The same is applicable for the intentions of the living** i.e. faithful can establish foundation masses to get Masses celebrated regularly **for their intentions while alive** and for the repose of their soul after their departure. (Cf. cc. 1303 §1, 1304–1310 CIC).

- To establish a Foundation Mass, the **minimum required donation is 50,000**. For a donation of **50,000**, the Diocese will ensure the celebration of **six Holy Masses each year**, in perpetuity, as long as the Diocese exists.

- For a donation of **1,00,000**, the Diocese will ensure the celebration of **twelve Holy Masses each year**, that is, **one Mass every month**, preferably on the anniversary of the date of demise.

The **Diocesan Chancery** will ensure and guarantee the faithful fulfilment of these Mass intentions. A **certificate of establishment** will be issued for each Foundation Mass, duly signed by the **Bishop and the Chancellor**.

2. **Gregorian Masses (*Missae Gregorianae*)**

Gregorian Masses consist of **thirty Masses celebrated for the same deceased person on thirty consecutive days**, according to the long-standing tradition of the Church associated with St. Gregory the Great. The uninterrupted celebration of the thirty Masses should be carefully observed. If an interruption occurs for a legitimate reason recognized by law or ecclesiastical authority, the celebration is to continue from the following day. Only one Mass intention may be accepted for each Mass celebrated. (*Cf. CIC cc. 945–958; Congregation for the Clergy, Mos iugiter, 24 February 1967*). **In the diocese of Kurnool a Gregorian Mass may be requested with an offering of Rs. 6000.**

3. **Novena Masses**

A Novena of Masses consists of **nine Masses offered for the same intention, ordinarily celebrated on nine consecutive days, although a just pastoral reason may permit another arrangement**. Each Mass requires its own legitimate offering, and the intention is to be clearly specified. The priest is bound to celebrate the Masses faithfully according to the accepted obligation. (*Cf. cc. 945–958 CIC*). **In the diocese of Kurnool a Novena Mass may be requested with an offering of Rs. 2000.**

4. **Triduum Masses**

A Triduum of Masses consists of **three Masses celebrated for the same intention, normally on three consecutive days**. These Masses are frequently requested for the deceased or for particular spiritual needs. Each Mass carries a distinct Mass intention and offering, and the celebrant must fulfill the obligation in accordance with the accepted intention. (*Cf. cc. 945–958 CIC*). **In the diocese of Kurnool a Triduum Mass may be requested with an offering of Rs. 600.**

5. **Ordinary Masses**

Ordinary Masses are individual Masses celebrated for a specific intention

for which a single Mass offering has been accepted. Every legitimately accepted intention obliges the priest to apply one Mass for that intention. The intention is to be recorded accurately in the prescribed register, and the Mass is to be celebrated within the time established by law. (*Cf. cc. 945–958 CIC*). **In the diocese of Kurnool an Ordinary Mass may be requested with an offering of Rs. 100.**

6. Diocesan Norm Regarding the Mass Stipends

No priest or parish shall demand a higher amount than the approved diocesan stipend (see above). The faithful remain entirely free to make any additional voluntary offering according to their generosity.

III. DIOCESAN DISTRIBUTION OF MASS INTENTIONS

Article 5

The Diocese of Kurnool has established the practice of distributing Mass intentions equitably among the diocesan clergy. Accordingly, every diocesan priest, except those specifically exempted by the Diocesan Bishop because of their office or particular ministry, receives Mass intentions through the Diocesan Curia.

Article 6

Consequently, all Mass intentions received in parishes, quasi-parishes, institutions, shrines and pastoral centres are to be transmitted to the Diocesan Curia for their proper canonical assignment and equitable distribution.

Article 7

No parish or institution shall ordinarily retain Mass intentions for local celebration or for local financial purposes unless expressly authorized by the Diocesan Bishop.

This diocesan discipline guarantees:

- o equitable support for all priests;
- o faithful fulfilment of the intentions entrusted by the Christian faithful;
- o transparency in financial administration;
- o proper canonical accountability.

IV. REGISTERS AND RECEIPTS

Article 8

Every parish, institution, shrine and pastoral centre shall maintain:

- o an Official Mass Intention Register;
- o the Official Receipt Book

Article 9

Immediately upon receiving a Mass intention, the following shall be entered in the Mass Register:

- o date received;
- o name of the donor (when appropriate);
- o intention;
- o stipend received;
- o receipt number;
- o date transmitted to the Diocese;

Article 10

An official receipt shall be issued for every Mass intention received.

The faithful are encouraged to request and preserve this receipt as evidence that their intention has been duly accepted.

Article 11

The Mass Register and Receipt Book are official ecclesiastical records and shall be preserved permanently among the parish archives.

V. MONTHLY TRANSMISSION OF MASS INTENTIONS

Article 12

All Mass intentions received during a calendar month shall be remitted to the Diocesan Curia **on or before the 10th day of the following month.**

Article 13

The remittance shall include:

- o the amount collected;
- o copies of the receipts issued;
- o a summary statement of Mass intentions received;

Article 14

The Diocese shall maintain the central register of Mass intentions and shall distribute them among the priests according to diocesan norms.

VI. OBLIGATIONS OF PRIESTS

Article 15

Every priest who receives Mass intentions from the Diocese shall faithfully celebrate them within the time prescribed

Article 16

Each priest shall maintain a personal record of all Mass intentions received and celebrated.

Article 17

Every priest remains personally responsible before God and the Church for the faithful fulfilment of the intentions entrusted to him.

VII. PARISH FINANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Article 18

The administration of Mass intentions is a sacred trust. Therefore, parish priests entrusted with pastoral governance shall exercise the utmost diligence, honesty and fidelity in their administration.

Article 19

Negligence in recording, transmitting or administering Mass intentions is contrary to the discipline of the Church and seriously damages the confidence of the faithful. Such negligence cannot be accepted and shall be addressed according to the norms of canon law and diocesan discipline.

VIII. INTERNAL FINANCIAL AUDIT

Article 20

From 1 January 2027, the Diocese shall establish a system of Internal Financial Audit.

Article 21

The Internal Auditors appointed by the Bishop shall periodically examine:

- o parish financial records;

- o Mass Registers;
- o Receipt Books;
- o remittances made to the Diocese;
- o implementation of the Parish Finance Committee;
- o compliance with diocesan financial policies.

Article 22

The diocesan auditors shall report directly to the Diocesan Bishop. All parish priests shall cooperate fully with the diocesan auditors and provide access to the required records.

IX. ANNUAL CERTIFICATION

Article 23

At the close of every financial year, each Parish Priest shall submit to the Diocesan Curia an **Annual Certificate of Compliance**, declaring that:

- o all Mass intentions received during the year have been duly entered in the Mass Register;
- o official receipts have been issued;
- o all Mass offerings have been transmitted to the Diocese in accordance with these norms;
- o the prescribed financial records have been maintained accurately.

This declaration shall be signed personally by the Parish Priest and countersigned, where applicable, by the members of the Parish Finance Committee.

X. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 24

These norms are established not merely as administrative regulations but as an expression of our fidelity to the Church, our respect for the faith of God's people, and our commitment to justice among the clergy.

Every Mass intention entrusted to the Church represents the prayer, hope and sacrifice of one of Christ's faithful. It deserves our utmost reverence and faithful administration.

Article 25

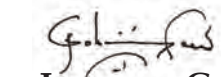
All previous diocesan customs or practices contrary to this Decree are hereby revoked.

This Decree shall enter into force from **1 August 2026**.

The norms concerning Internal Financial Audit shall become effective from **1 January 2027**.

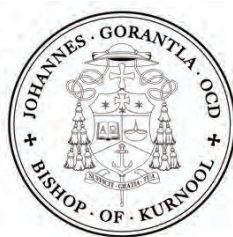
May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, obtain for all the priests of our Diocese a renewed love for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and a faithful stewardship of the sacred trust entrusted to us by the People of God.

Given at the Bishop's House, Kurnool,
On the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, 2026.



✠ JOHANNES GORANTLA OCD

Bishop of Kurnool



Rev. Fr. O. Joji Reddy

Chancellor

PASTORAL CLARIFICATIONS CONCERNING MASS INTENTIONS

1. Why does the Church permit Mass offerings?

The practice of giving a Mass offering dates back to the earliest centuries of Christianity. The faithful unite a personal sacrifice with the Eucharistic Sacrifice, thereby participating more fully in the Church's worship.

The offering also contributes to the support of priests who dedicate themselves entirely to the service of God's people. Mass offerings are therefore expressions of faith, charity and ecclesial communion.

2. Is a Mass offering a payment for the Eucharist?

Absolutely not. The grace of the Eucharist cannot be bought or sold. No one purchases a Mass. The offering is a voluntary contribution accompanying the request that a Mass be celebrated for a particular intention. Every appearance of buying or selling sacred things (simony) is gravely contrary to the teaching of the Church.

3. Why are Mass stipends not parish income?

According to the canonical tradition of the Church, **Mass offerings principally belong to the support of priests.** For this reason they are treated separately from parish collections, donations and ordinary income. In the Diocese of Kurnool these offerings are collected centrally so that every diocesan priest shares equally in this support. Therefore they are not intended for parish maintenance or local projects.

4. Why are all Mass intentions sent to the Diocese?

The Diocese has adopted this system for three important reasons:

- o *to ensure that every Mass requested by the faithful is celebrated;*
- o *to distribute Mass intentions equitably among all priests;*
- o *to guarantee transparency and accountability.*

This system reflects the fraternity of the diocesan presbyterate and ensures that priests serving poorer parishes receive the same support as those serving larger communities.

5. Why must every Mass be recorded?

A Mass intention creates a sacred obligation in justice.

The Register safeguards:

- o *the intention of the donor;*
- o *the obligation of the priest;*
- o *the confidence of the faithful;*
- o *the accountability of the parish.*

The Register therefore protects everyone.

6. Why should every donor receive a receipt?

The receipt assures the faithful that:

- o *their intention has been officially accepted;*
- o *it has entered the diocesan system;*
- o *it will be celebrated according to Church law.*

The receipt is therefore an instrument of transparency and pastoral accountability.

7. May someone give more than the prescribed offering?

Yes. The diocesan stipend for an ordinary mass for example is 100. If someone freely wishes to offer a larger amount, the additional amount may be accepted as a voluntary donation. No one may ever demand more than the approved diocesan stipend. No one should be denied a Mass because he or she is unable to offer the customary stipend.

8. What if someone is unable to make any offering?

The poor always retain the full right to request the celebration of Holy Mass. Priests shall gladly celebrate Masses for them without any offering whenever pastoral charity requires. No faithful person should ever believe that prayer depends upon money.

9. What happens after the intention reaches the Diocese?

The Diocesan Curia records every Mass intention and distributes them among the priests according to diocesan norms. Each priest remains personally responsible for celebrating the intentions entrusted to him. The Diocese maintains the corresponding records.

10. May one Mass satisfy several intentions?

In the diocese of Kurnool, one Mass offering corresponds to one Mass intention only. Every other provision is reserved to the Diocesan Bishop.

11. What happens if a priest cannot celebrate the entrusted Masses?

If a priest becomes ill, is transferred, retires or dies before fulfilling the Masses entrusted to him, the remaining intentions shall immediately be returned to the Diocese for reassignment. No Mass intention may remain unfulfilled because of a change in ministry.

12. Why are audits necessary?

The audit is not an expression of distrust. Rather, it is an exercise of responsible stewardship.

It protects:

- o the faithful;
- o the priest;
- o the parish;
- o the Diocese.

Proper accountability strengthens confidence in the Church and gives credible witness to the Gospel.

✠ JOHANNES GORANTLA OCD
Bishop of Kurnool

COUMMUNICATION FROM BISHOP'S DESK

1. PRAYERFUL WISHES TO FR. E. PRAVEEN FOR HIS STUDIES IN ITALY

Hearty congratulations and prayerful wishes to Rev. Fr. Praveen as he departs for Italy to pursue higher studies in Dogmatic Theology. We gratefully acknowledge his dedicated service as the former Secretary to the Bishop and thank him for his faithful ministry to the Diocese. May the Lord bless and guide him throughout his academic journey. We assure him of our prayers and wish him every success in his studies and future priestly ministry. God's blessings and best wishes. Buon Viaggio!

2. CRI AND HEADS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES ON 11 JULY, 2026 AT JEEVASUDHA PASTORAL CENTER

CRI Meeting: Annual Inaugural LCRI Meeting

Heads of Educational Institutions and Communities: All Superiors, Heads of Institutions, and Major Religious Communities are cordially invited to a general body meeting. The purpose is to enhance mutual communication and contribute constructively to diocesan and social responsibilities.

3. CLERGY RETREAT 2026

We are pleased to announce that our clergy Retreat will take place from 21 – 25 September, 2026, at Jeevasudha Pastoral Center. This will be a special time for spiritual renewal and fraternity among our Diocesan Priests. Please mark your Calendars and Join us in Prayer, Reflection and Shared Experience.

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION



- **For respect for human life:**

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

JULY

02	Thu	10:00 am	Ecumenical Meeting at Jeeva Sudha
03	Fri	09:30 am	Episcopal Consecration of Msgr. Duggimpudi Vijaya Paul Reddy, Bishop-Elect of Warangal
06	Mon	10:00 am	Inaugural Mass at Layola Academy, Sec-bad
07	Tue	10.30 am	Blessing of Christ the King Church, Venkatapuram, Banaganapalle
08	Wed	11:00 am	Mass at Shanthinikethan, JMJ
09	Thu		In Office
10	Fri	05:30 pm	Mount Carmel Feast, Maseedupuram
11	Sat	09:30 am	CRI, Meeting of School Heads/Superiors- DESK, JPC Centre
13-19			New Bishop's Meeting, Yercaud, Tamil Nadu
20	Mon	06:00 pm	Mount Carmel Feast, Sunkeswari
21	Tue	10:00 am	Blessing and Inauguration of St Mary's College, Pasupala
22	Wed	10:00 am	Seminar on Magnifica Humanitas at Jeeva Sudha
23	Thu	09-01pm	In Office
24-25			NVSC - Pune
26	Sun	06:30 pm	Feast of St. Ann's, Mass at Cathedral, Kurnool
27	Mon	10:30 am	Blessing of Infant Jesus Church, Claretians, Kurnool
29 July-30 Aug			Mission Appeal, USA

✠ JOHANNES GORANTLA OCD
Bishop of Kurnool

COMMUNICATIONS

1. HOLY MASSES RECEIVED

St. Theresa's Co- Cathedral, Kurnool	250 Masses	25000/-
Sinai Divine Retreat Centre, Premagiri	270 Masses	27000/-
Fr. C.J. Varghese, Samarpana	30 Masses	3000/-
St. Anthony's Orphanage	88 Masses	8800/-
Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral, Kurnool	150 Masses	15000/-
Bishop's Friends 30 Masses Gregorian Masses for the repose of the souls of: ➤ Sr. Elizabeth Geragty ➤ Anita Porzio ➤ Maria Marra ➤ George Swanberg Novena Masses for the Intention of... ➤ Cardinal Burke ➤ Msgr. Giovanni ➤ Carolyn ➤ Margaret ➤ John ➤ Agnes ➤ Teresa ➤ Catherine		

2. TO ALL DIOCESAN CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS

Dear Fathers, and Sisters, you are cordially invited to attend an enriching seminar on the Papal Encyclical, "Magnificat Humanitas" (Magnificent Humanity), which will feature a reflection on human dignity, fraternity, compassion, and the collective call to build a more humane society. This significant event will take place on Wednesday, 22-07-2026, starting at 9:30 AM at the Jeeva Sudha Pastoral Centre - KNL. We are honored to have Rev. Dr. Richard Britto, Rector of St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bangalore, as our esteemed resource person for the session. Your presence and active participation will greatly enrich this occasion and contribute to a meaningful dialogue on the values of humanity and service. All priests, as well as men and women religious, are warmly requested to attend this program.

- Rev. Dr. Fr. Baburaj

NEWS

1. SEMINARIANS ENJOY A DAY OF FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENT

The seminarians of the Diocese of Kurnool enjoyed a day of fellowship and refreshment during a one-day picnic to Kadapa and nearby places on 1 June. The outing, organised by Rev. Fr. Prasanna Masek, Vicar for Clergy and Seminarians, brought together 18 seminarians from the Orientation Course to Fourth Year

Theology after they had completed a month of pastoral ministry in various parishes. The group visited Gandikota, met Most Rev. Dr. Saginala Prakash at the Bishop's House in Kadapa, where he warmly received them and hosted them for lunch, and later visited the Our Lady Mother Shrine, Kadapa, and Veyasar Ghat at Idupulapaya.



Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, for his fatherly care, encouragement, and generous support. They returned home refreshed and grateful as they prepared to begin the new academic year.

- Bro Kishore, St. John's Regional Seminary, Ramanthapur

2. CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON THE PREPARATION OF THE DIOCESAN YOUTH DIRECTORY

In an important initiative to strengthen youth ministry in the Diocese of Kurnool, the Most Rev. Johannes Gorantla, Bishop of Kurnool, convened a consultative meeting of the Deanery Youth Leadership to listen to their experiences, concerns and suggestions regarding the future of youth ministry in the Diocese.

The meeting was organized as part of the ongoing process of preparing the Directory for Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Kurnool, which will soon be published. The proposed Directory aims to provide a comprehensive vision and clear pastoral guidelines for youth ministry at the parish, deanery and diocesan levels.



During the meeting, the participants reflected on the objectives of youth ministry and discussed practical ways of fostering the faith formation and active participation of young people in the life and mission of the Church. The proposed Directory will clearly define the identity and membership of youth units, their objectives, organizational structure, leadership responsibilities, pastoral programs, activities, formation, and the norms and guidelines governing youth ministry throughout the Diocese.

The Bishop emphasized that the Directory is intended to serve as a practical pastoral handbook for priests, religious, youth animators and young leaders, ensuring greater clarity, coordination and uniformity in youth ministry across the Diocese.

The participants actively shared their experiences and offered many valuable suggestions, which will be incorporated into the final document. The Bishop expressed his appreciation for their enthusiastic participation and assured them that the Directory would be prepared after carefully considering the recommendations received during the consultation.

The meeting was attended by the Deans of the Diocese, the Diocesan Youth Director, Rev. Fr. Rajendra, and the elected youth representatives from the various deaneries. The gathering concluded on a positive note, with a renewed commitment to building a vibrant, well-organized and missionary-oriented youth ministry in the Diocese of Kurnool.

3. BETHAMCHERLA PARISH BIDS FAREWELL TO MONTFORT FATHERS

The parishioners of Bethamcherla gathered on 4 June 2026 to celebrate the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to bid farewell to the Montfort Fathers, who have served in the Diocese of Kurnool for the past 32 years. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, Bishop

of Kurnool. In his homily, the Bishop reflected on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, fellowship, discipleship, and the need for openness to the challenges of pastoral ministry. During the celebration, he introduced Rev. Fr. Sleeva to the parish, who formally assumed charge as the Parish Priest. The faithful expressed deep emotion as they thanked Rev. Fr. Kiran for his service and offered him a farewell. Parishioners from all the mission stations participated in the celebration, which concluded with a meal served to the people.



4. CTC SISTER CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE AT VENKAYAPALLE

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, presided over



the Eucharistic Celebration marking the Silver Jubilee of the religious profession of Rev. Sr. Steema, CTC, at the CTC Convent, Venkayapalle, on 5 June 2026. In his homily, the Bishop reflected on Sr. Steema's twenty-five years of commitment to consecrated life and her service in the CTC

Congregation. He reminded the congregation that God continues to bless those who remain faithful to their vocation and encouraged all religious to persevere in their commitment to the Lord. Rev. Fr. M. Bhaskar, Rev. Fr. Arulappa, Rev. Fr. P. Joseph, Rev. Fr. Thota Joseph, Rev. Fr. Balaswamy Jr., Rev. Fr. Ravi Jr., Rev. Fr. Antony, OCD, Rev. Fr. Raja Sekhar Koduru, Rev. Fr. Praveen, Rev. Fr. Naveen, and women religious from various congregations in and around the CTC Convent joined the celebration. The programme concluded with a fellowship meal served to all attendees.

5. DIOCESE OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO REV. FR. P. JOHN DAVID ON THE LOSS OF HIS FATHER

The Diocese of Kurnool extended its heartfelt condolences and sympathies to Rev. Fr. P. John David, Dean and Parish Priest of St. Teresa's Co-Cathedral, on the passing of his beloved father, Mr. P. Balaswamy (75), a devoted catechist from Mothkalapalli village of Maseedupuram Parish, who passed away on 5



June after serving the Church faithfully for nearly 30 years. During his ministry, Mr. Balaswamy proclaimed the Gospel, conducted family prayers, taught the faith to children, guided young people, visited the sick, and worked for the unity of the Christian community. He lived among the people and bore witness to Christ through his faithful service and simple way of life. On 6 June, the Bishop of Kurnool, Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, visited the bereaved family, prayed for the eternal repose of Mr. Balaswamy's soul, comforted the family, and assured

them of the prayers and support of the diocesan community. Priests, women religious, and the faithful also joined the family during the funeral and burial services, offering their prayers and expressing their condolences. May the Lord grant eternal rest to Mr. Balaswamy and strengthen his family with His peace.

6. ST. ANTHONY'S FEAST DRAWS PILGRIMS TO CHAPIREVULA PARISH

St. Anthony's Parish, Chapirevula, celebrated its Annual Feast on 13 June 2026 with the participation of a large number of pilgrims and faithful. The celebrations began on 4 June with the hoisting of the feast flag by Rev. Fr. K. D. Joseph, Dean, followed by a nine-day novena, daily Holy Mass, devotion to St. Anthony, and community meals. On the



eve of the feast, the parish organized games and a cultural programme for children. On the feast day, Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, was welcomed in a procession before presiding over the solemn Eucharistic celebration, concelebrated by Rev. Fr. Karunakar Kasu OFM Cap., Provincial Minister, and other priests. In his homily, the Bishop encouraged the faithful to seek God's blessings through the intercession of St. Anthony and to strengthen their faith through devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

After the Mass, Rev. Fr. Jojireddy, Parish Priest, thanked the Bishop, priests, religious, donors, choir, parish council, volunteers, and pilgrims for their support. The celebration concluded with a community meal. The parishioners

expressed their gratitude to God for the successful feast and thanked Fr. Jojireddy for his dedicated efforts in organizing the celebrations.

7. BISHOP'S FIRST VISIT MARKS ST. ANTHONY'S FEAST AT Y. KOTHAPALLI

The faithful of Y. Kothapalli, P. Yaleru Parish, celebrated the Annual Feast of St. Anthony with deep faith and joy on 13 June 2026. The celebration became a historic event as Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, made his first pastoral visit to the village. Hundreds of youth and parishioners welcomed the Bishop with a grand bike rally, while the faithful lined the streets with flower petals and banners. On reaching the church, the Bishop and the concelebrating priests received a traditional welcome through a cultural dance performed by the parish youth and children before the solemn celebration of the Holy Eucharist.



In his homily, Bishop Johannes called on the faithful to imitate the virtues of **St. Anthony** by living lives of faith, humility, love for the poor, and commitment to proclaiming the Gospel. He also expressed his joy at witnessing the faith and unity of the parish community after four decades. Following the Mass, the parish honoured the Bishop during a felicitation programme, and representatives of various parish organizations thanked him for his pastoral visit and sought his blessings. The celebrations concluded with an agape meal shared by the clergy, religious, parishioners, and guests. The Bishop's visit made this year's feast a memorable milestone in the history of Y. Kothapalli Parish.

8. BISHOP JOHANNES INAUGURATES ACADEMIC YEAR AT VIJNANANILAYAM

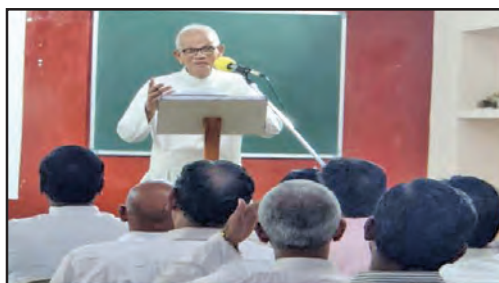
Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, served as the main celebrant and chief guest for the inauguration of the academic year 2026–2027 at Vijnananilayam – Institute of Philosophy and Religion, the Capuchin theologate in the Diocese of Eluru, on 15 June 2026. During the inaugural Eucharistic celebration, Bishop Johannes distinguished between knowledge and wisdom, reminding the seminarians that true wisdom comes from Jesus Christ, the Wisdom of God, and grows through prayerful reading and reflection



on Sacred Scripture. He encouraged the students to listen attentively to their professors, noting that every lecture and every line of their carefully prepared notes is the fruit of deep study and deserves serious attention. He also urged the seminarians to make responsible use of the opportunities and resources provided for their formation, pointing out that their needs, from books to basic daily necessities, are generously met by their dioceses and religious congregations. In a competitive world, he said, seminarians must value these blessings, take their formation seriously, and prepare themselves to become committed and faithful servants of the Church.

9. RENEWING THE DISCIPLESHIP: A DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION FOR KURNOOL CLERGY

The priests of the Diocese of Kurnool gathered at Jeevasudha Pastoral Centre, Kurnool, on 17 June 2026 for their monthly clergy recollection as they prepared for the new academic and pastoral year. The day began with coffee, followed by a recollection preached by Rev. Fr. Showraiah SJ, of the Jesuit community at Pulivendula, who regularly conducts retreats and recollections for priests, religious, and lay faithful in the diocese and elsewhere. Drawing from the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Fr. Showraiah encouraged the priests to





“find God in all things” and reminded them that “success is not permanent and failure is not final; what matters is faithful perseverance.” He urged them to renew their commitment to prayer, make the right choices, listen with compassion, and remain authentic disciples of Christ. After a

break, the clergy spent an hour in Eucharistic Adoration and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation before participating in the Holy Eucharist. During the homily, Fr. Showraiah reminded the priests that *“God is concerned not only with what we do but also with why we do it,”* and called them to be shepherds whose ministry flows from prayer, humility, and a sincere relationship with Christ.



After the Mass, Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, addressed the clergy on several pastoral and administrative matters. He directed all priests to implement the Diocesan Pastoral Plan in every parish with commitment and consistency. He also briefed them on FCRA regulations, admissions and fee concessions

in diocesan educational institutions as the new academic year begins, and other diocesan matters. Looking ahead, the Bishop announced plans to study the division of large parishes with more than ten substations to strengthen pastoral care and informed the clergy about the formation of a committee to address diocesan land issues. The day concluded with lunch, followed by the meetings of the Presbyteral Council and the College of Consultors.

10. FOUNDATION STONE BLESSED FOR NEW NITHYA SAHAYA MATHA CHURCH AT PEDDAKADUBBUR

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, blessed the



foundation stone for the new Nithya Sagaya Matha Church at Peddakadubbur Parish on 21 June 2026, marking an important milestone in the life of the parish. The parishioners and faithful from the surrounding villages welcomed the Bishop with traditional drums and a festive procession. Rev. Fr. Koduru Rajendra Kumar, Parish Priest, received the Bishop, while the parish youth actively assisted in organizing the celebration. After blessing the foundation stone and praying for the successful completion of the church, the Bishop encouraged the faithful to remain united in faith, love, and service. He then presided over the solemn Holy Eucharist, where he reminded the congregation that building a church is not only about raising a structure but also about building a living Christian community rooted in faith, prayer, and Gospel values. The parish community thanked the Bishop for his presence, blessings, and message, and looked forward with hope to the completion of their new parish church.

11. FOUNDATION STONE LAID FOR NEW DIVINE MERCY CHURCH AT KAPATI VILLAGE

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, blessed and laid the foundation stone for the new Yesu Divya Karunya Devalayam (Divine Mercy Church) at Kapati Village, Peddakadubbur Parish, on 21 June 2026. The Bishop received a warm welcome at the village entrance and was escorted to the church site in a festive procession with the active participation of parishioners, youth, women, and children. Rev. Fr. Koduru Rajendra Kumar, Parish Priest, welcomed the Bishop and thanked everyone who helped organize the historic event, especially the village youth for their dedicated service. The Bishop later presided over the Holy Eucharist, attended by a large gathering of faithful from Kapati and the surrounding villages. In his homily, he called on the faithful to remain united in Christ, grow in faith, and become witnesses of God's Divine Mercy in their daily lives. He also appreciated the sacrifices



made by the people toward the construction of the new church. After the Mass, the Bishop blessed and laid the foundation stone, offering special prayers for the successful completion of the project and for all the benefactors, workers, and parishioners. The celebration concluded with hope and thanksgiving as the faithful looked forward to the completion of the new church.

12. DIOCESE EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO REV. FR. KODURU RAJENDRA KUMAR

The Diocese of Kurnool extended its heartfelt condolences and sympathies to Rev. Fr. Koduru Rajendra Kumar, Parish Priest of Peddakadubbur Parish, on the passing of his beloved father, Mr. Koduru Jojappa, who entered into eternal rest on 21 June 2026. The funeral and burial Mass was solemnly celebrated at his native village, Amagampalli, in the Diocese of Kadapa, amidst prayerful remembrance and the presence of family, relatives, clergy, religious, and the faithful. A large number of priests from the Diocese of Kurnool gathered to concelebrate the Holy Eucharist and express their solidarity with Fr. Rajendra



and his bereaved family. Among them were Monsignor Arullappa, Fr. O. Jojireddy, Chancellor, Fr. Inna Reddy, Vice Chancellor, Fr. Bhaskar, Director of DESK, and many other diocesan priests. Their presence reflected the unity, fraternity, and prayerful support of the diocesan clergy during this time of sorrow as they commended the soul of Mr. Koduru Jojappa to the Lord and assured the family of their continued prayers.

13. NEW CHURCH BLESSED AT KALUGATLA, STRENGTHENING THE FAITH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Catholic faithful of Kalugatla Village, Yemmiganur Parish, celebrated the blessing and dedication of their new church on 26 June 2026 with joy and thanksgiving. Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, presided over the solemn celebration, joined by Rev. Fr. Babu Nagipogu, Parish Priest of Yemmiganur, neighbouring priests, and religious sisters. The new church, built through the prayers, sacrifices, and generosity of the faithful and benefactors, fulfilled the long-cherished dream of the Catholic community, which had waited nearly six years for a permanent place of worship. The ceremony began with a procession, followed by the blessing of holy water, the church walls, altar, and statues, and the solemn rite of dedication before the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.



In his homily, Bishop Johannes reminded the faithful that the Church is not merely a building of stone but the living temple of God's people, and he urged them to make it a house of prayer, unity, and service. Parishioners, catechists, youth, and children took an active part in the liturgy through the choir, readings, and offertory procession, while the village community welcomed the Bishop with traditional honours. Fr. Babu Nagipogu thanked the Bishop, donors, volunteers, and all who contributed to the construction of the church. Village elders felicitated the Bishop and the priests as a sign of gratitude. The celebration concluded with a fellowship meal, marking a

memorable day in the history of Yemmiganur Parish and a new beginning for the faithful of Kalugatla Village.

14. TRUST, FIDELITY AND HOPE MARK DHONE PARISH FEAST

The faithful of Dhone Parish celebrated the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul with Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, who was warmly welcomed by the San Joe EM School band and parishioners. Fr. R. Showry welcomed the Bishop, guest priests, religious sisters, and the congregation to the Holy Eucharist. In his homily, the Bishop highlighted how St. Peter united the early Church and St. Paul spread the Gospel. Reflecting on Peter's peaceful imprisonment and Christ's teachings on providence, he urged the faithful to cast their anxieties on God and live humbly. He also emphasized



that God values present fidelity over achievements or past mistakes, calling everyone to live with honesty, integrity, and perseverance.

Following the prayers, the Mass concluded with the Bishop's blessing and feast day greetings. The Bishop felicitated the guest priests and honored parishioner Mr. Michael on his retirement after 36 years as a government school teacher, thanking him for his service to Church and society. Finally, the Bishop thanked Fr. Xavier for the feast arrangements, praying for his speedy recovery, and expressed deep appreciation to Fr. R. Showry for successfully managing the parish's pastoral ministry during Fr. Xavier's absence.

15. BISHOP HONORS KOLA ASEERVADAM ON RETIREMENT AFTER 28 YEARS

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, joined the staff, students, friends, and family of Mr. Kola Aseervadam to celebrate his retirement after 28 years of dedicated service at the college. Mr. Aseervadam served as the Librarian and also taught Civics, shaping the lives of many students through his



commitment and quiet dedication. Wishing him good health, happiness, and God's blessings, the Bishop said that Mr. Aseervadam had been a blessing to the college and reminded him that retirement did not mean sitting at home. He warmly invited him to continue visiting the campus and to guide and encourage the students whenever he wished. The Correspondent, Rev. Fr. A. Bhaskar, and the Principal, Mr. N. Anthony Raj, thanked him for his faithful and valuable service to the institution. The programme began with a procession from the entrance of the college to the stage, where the farewell function was held. Students presented cultural programmes to honour and celebrate the retiree, making the occasion both joyful and memorable. The celebration concluded with a meal shared by the students, teaching and non-teaching staff, domestic staff, and the many friends and relatives who had gathered to thank Mr. Aseervadam for his years of service.

NEWS FROM JEEVASUDHA PASTORAL CENTRE (JPC)

1. ANIMATORS BRING CHRIST TO FAMILIES THROUGH PASTORAL OUTREACH ACROSS THE DIOCESE

Yemmiganur Parish: Families Renewed Through House Visits and Prayer

The Animators' Outreach Programme concluded at Yemmiganur Parish on 7 June 2026 after five days of intensive pastoral ministry. The animators visited every substation, prayed with families, collected parish data, proclaimed the Word of God, and taught prayers and hymns in the village communities.



The programme concluded on the Feast of Corpus Christi with a Eucharistic procession and Holy Mass, during which the Director reflected on the Eucharist. The celebration also marked the First Holy Communion of 64 children, who had been prepared by the parish. The faithful warmly hosted the animators throughout the mission, which strengthened family prayer and parish life.

2. PATHIKONDA REGION: OUTREACH STRENGTHENS FAITH IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

From 10 to 14 June 2026, the animators carried out pastoral outreach in Pathikonda, Ramadurgam, and Madikera Parishes, visiting homes, leading family prayers, preaching in village churches, teaching hymns, and gathering parish information. The mission concluded on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus with the Holy Eucharist, where the Director encouraged the faithful to imitate the compassionate Heart of Christ. During the same period,



another team of animators served at Gooty Parish, conducting the Seven Steps Prayer in all seven wards, helping families deepen their prayer life and faith.

3. VIRUPAPURAM AND ADONI: MISSION ENDS WITH A CALL TO HOPE

The final phase of the outreach took place from 17 to 21 June 2026 in Virupapuram and Adoni Parishes. The animators reached every substation through family visits, prayer services, catechesis, and village evangelization, bringing spiritual encouragement to many homes. The programme concluded with the Holy Eucharist at Virupapuram Parish, where the Director preached on Christ's promises in times of difficulty and encouraged the faithful to remain steadfast in hope. Throughout the mission, parish communities generously welcomed the animators, making the outreach a meaningful experience of faith, fellowship, and pastoral renewal.



NEWS FROM DIOCESAN EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (DESK)

1. SCHOOLS REOPEN ACROSS THE DIOCESE, WELCOMING STUDENTS TO A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Schools across the Diocese reopened for the 2026–2027 academic year, welcoming students back with hope and enthusiasm for a new beginning in learning, discipline, and personal growth. The Diocese expressed its appreciation to all the Principals for their dedicated leadership and continued commitment to providing quality education, especially to children from poor and underprivileged families. It also thanked the Boarding Wardens for their loving care and constant support in creating a safe and nurturing environment where boarders can grow academically, spiritually, and personally.



The Diocese acknowledged with gratitude the fatherly concern of Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla OCD, Bishop of Kurnool, who provided notebooks to all the boarding students as a gesture of encouragement at the beginning of



the new academic year. His support reflects the Diocese's commitment to the education and holistic formation of every child. The Diocese wished God's blessings upon the students, teachers, Principals, Boarding Wardens, and all the staff, praying that the new academic year would be fruitful for every educational institution.

NEWS FROM KURNOOL DIOCESE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY (KDSSS)

1. MAKING OF PHENOL IN KETAVARAM, KADUMURU AND PRATHAKOTA

As part of its Women's Empowerment Programme, KDSSS conducted phenol-making training for rural women in Ketavaram, Kadumuru, and Prathakota villages of Kurnool District. Most families in these villages depend on agriculture, daily wage labour, and small-scale farming. Seasonal rainfall and



limited employment opportunities often affect their income, while many women have little access to higher education or regular employment.



The training introduced phenol making as a simple and low-cost home-based enterprise. Participants learned the production process and basic marketing skills to help them start small businesses with minimum investment. The programme encouraged self-confidence, entrepreneurship, and financial independence. By creating an

additional source of income, the initiative seeks to strengthen family livelihoods and promote the active participation of women in the development of their communities.

2. CERTIFICATION CEREMONY AND DISTRIBUTION OF SEWING MACHINES TO TAILORING TRAINEES OF KETAVARAM, KADUMURU AND PRATHAKOTA AT KDSSS

With the blessings of Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, Bishop of Kurnool, KDSSS organised the certification ceremony for women who completed tailoring training from Ketavaram, Kadumuru, and Prathakota villages. Under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Thota Joseph, Director of KDSSS, the programme equipped women with tailoring skills that can help them earn a steady income and support their families.



Many participants now plan to start small tailoring units and undertake stitching work in their villages. During the programme, 40 sewing machines and tailoring kits were distributed to the trainees to help them begin self-employment. The parish priests, Rev. Fr. Balaraju and Rev. Fr. Madhu, together with the trainees, thanked KDSSS, the trainers, and the generous donor whose support made the programme possible. The initiative has given the women practical skills, confidence, and an opportunity to build a secure future.

3. NOTEBOOKS DISTRIBUTION TO NEEDY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS IN ADONI DEANERY

KDSSS organised a notebook distribution programme for needy school and college students in the Adoni Deanery. More than 1,800 notebooks were distributed to deserving students identified by the parish priests through the parish offices on the basis of financial need and academic commitment.

Many families in the region depend on daily wage labour and seasonal migration for their livelihood. Meeting educational expenses often becomes



difficult, and the cost of stationery adds to their burden. The distribution of notebooks helps students attend school regularly, complete their assignments, and continue their education with greater confidence.

Students, parents, and parish priests expressed their sincere gratitude to the generous donor for supporting the education of poor children. They prayed for God's blessings upon the donor for this generous contribution.

4. NATIONAL ECOLOGY COMMISSION MEETING ON 15TH JUNE 2026 AT SECUNDERABAD

The Andhra Pradesh Social Service Forum organised a one-day seminar on Ecology, Environment, and Climate Change on 15th June 2026 under the theme "*Guardians of Creation.*" The programme was conducted by the CBCI Telugu Region Commission for Ecology.

Cardinal Anthony Poola, Metropolitan Archbishop of Hyderabad, welcomed the participants, while Most Rev. Dr. Sagili Prakash, Bishop of Khammam, delivered the inaugural address. The participants discussed the growing environmental challenges and shared diocesan action plans to promote ecological responsibility.

The seminar encouraged practical measures such as reducing single-use plastics, promoting rainwater harvesting, practising waste segregation, and using natural resources responsibly. The participants renewed their



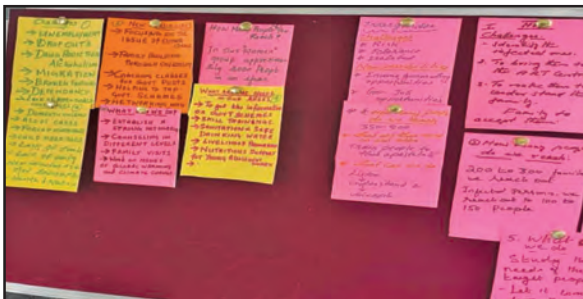
commitment to protect the environment and preserve creation for future generations.

5. WORKSHOP ON THE SOCIAL APOSTOLATE OF THE KURNOOL DIOCESE - 2026



The Kurnool Diocese Social Apostolate Collaborators' Meeting was held at KDSSS on 27th June 2026 with the participation of social welfare workers from different parishes. The workshop focused on strengthening collaboration and planning a common approach to social ministry.

Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, Bishop of Kurnool and Chairperson of the meeting, reminded the participants that "Together things become easier" and encouraged them to work with a common purpose. Msgr. Rev. Fr. Arulappa, Vicar General, explained the importance of identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges in social ministry. Rev. Fr. Thota Joseph, Director of KDSSS, reflected on the major social issues affecting people today and guided the group discussions.

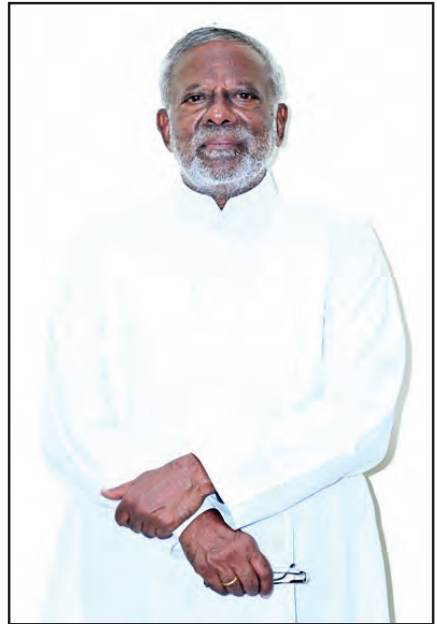


The participants shared their field experiences and identified key priorities for the diocese, including "One Parish, One Social Commitment," "Towards a Common Diocesan Vision," "Kurnool Integral Human Development Mission - 2035," and "No Family Left Behind in the Diocese of Kurnool by 2035." The meeting concluded with the Bishop's reflections and the adoption of a common plan for future action.

THE DIOCESE OF KURNOOL PAYS GRATEFUL TRIBUTE TO REV. FR. Y. JOJI REDDY ON HIS COMPLETION OF 75 YEARS

The Diocese of Kurnool expresses its heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation to Rev. Fr. Y. Joji Reddy on the occasion of his 75th Birthday.

Born into a faith-filled family, Fr. Joji Reddy, the second priest from Kowlur Parish in the Diocese, was ordained to the priesthood on 07 February 1979 by Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Rajappa, Bishop of Kurnool. From the very beginning of his ministry, he has been a zealous, faithful, and joyful servant of God, generously offering himself in various pastoral responsibilities entrusted to him by the Diocese.



PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS

1. Assistant Parish Priest, Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral (1979–1980)
2. Assistant Parish Priest, St. Ann's Church, Guntakal (1980–1981)
3. Assistant Parish Priest, Infant Jesus Church, Adoni (1981–1983)
4. Parish Priest, Velangani Matha Church, Nandikotkur (1983–1989)
5. Procurator, Diocese of Kurnool (1989–1994)
6. Parish Priest, Our Lady of Assumption Church, Ramadurgam (1994–1997)
7. Parish Priest, Our Lady of Good Health Shrine, Guntakal (1997–2005)
8. Parish Priest, Infant Jesus Church, Adoni (2005–2008)
9. Parish Priest, St. Joseph's Church, Gooty (2008–2014)
10. Parish Priest, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Yerraguntla (2014)
11. Parish Priest, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Peddakottala (2015–2025)
12. Parish Priest, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Anantapur (2025 till date)

Throughout this long and dedicated pastoral journey, Fr. Joji Reddy has been known as a humble, simple, and joyful priest. He carried out his ministry not for recognition or honour, but with a spirit of obedience, availability, and

sincere love for God's people. In every assignment entrusted to him, he served faithfully as a true shepherd who walked closely with the faithful, sharing their joys, sorrows, struggles, and hopes.

He is especially remembered for his gentle nature, calm presence, and kind words. His simple greeting and fatherly blessing became a source of comfort and encouragement to many. He never imposed himself, but quietly built relationships of trust, peace, and pastoral care wherever he served.

Fr. Joji Reddy is also well known for his gift of sacred music. A gifted singer, he animated the Holy Eucharist with devotion and beauty, rendering the liturgical parts from the introductory rites to the concluding rites in a prayerful and meaningful manner. His musical service enriched the liturgical participation of the faithful and deepened their prayer experience.

Among his notable contributions, he also played a significant role in the establishment of the **Shrine of Our Lady of Good Health at Guntakal**, which continues to be a centre of devotion and prayer for many faithful. Besides, he was the first Telugu Priest to work as an Assistant Priest and the Parish Priest in Our Lady of Good Health Shrine in Guntakal.

He is remembered as a contented and peaceful priest, who lived with gratitude and simplicity. He often expressed his thankfulness to God and appreciation to the Diocese and to the Bishops under whom he served, for the opportunities and trust given to him throughout his ministry.

His priestly life reflects obedience, perseverance, humility, and joyful dedication. He adapted himself to every assignment with faith and carried out his responsibilities with sincerity and pastoral love. His ministry stands as a quiet but powerful witness to faithful service in the Church.

As he now Celebrates 75th birthday the Diocese of Kurnool honors him with deep respect and affection for his nearly fifty years of devoted priestly service. His life remains a shining example of generous service to God and His people.

The Diocese assures him of its prayers and loving remembrance, and asks the Lord to bless him with good health, peace, and joy in the years ahead. May this birthday be a time of grace, thanksgiving, and continued closeness to the Lord whom he served so faithfully throughout his life.

FOUNDATION MASSES IN THE DIOCESE

When someone dies in our diocese, there is a possibility to the family to make a substantial donation to the diocese, which will fix it and use its interest to celebrate regular masses in memory of the deceased member, in whose name the foundation mass is established. To establish a foundation Mass, the minimum donation has to be Rs. 50,000. In addition, people can establish foundation masses also for the intentions of the living.

- For a fixed amount of Rs. 50,000: The diocese will celebrate 6 Masses each year as long as the diocese exists. For a fixed amount of Rs. 100,000: The diocese will celebrate 12 masses every year, i.e. once a month on the date of demise.
- The Chancery will ensure and guarantee these celebrations
- A certificate will be granted to those who establish the foundation, signed by the Bishop and the Chancellor. Please inform this in our parishes and if anyone is interested please encourage them to contact the diocesan office.

THE DAYS TO REMEMBER

Many Many Happy Returns of the day to you dear Fathers ...

1. Rev. Fr. Ery Balaraj 01-07-1974
2. Rev. Fr. Ankarla Bhaskar 09.07.1983
3. Rev. Fr. Yeruva Joji Reddy 11.07.1952
4. Rev. Fr. Gadda Rajkumar 19.07.1977

*Congratulations to you dear Fathers on the day of
your Priestly Ordination Anniversaries...*

Rev. Fr. Polisetti Balaswamy 03.07.2012



RIP

Rev. Fr. Cherian Cheriyal 02.07.1996

Rev. Fr. P. Anthony Reddy 19.07.1995

Let us remember our Departed Brother Priests, May the souls of the
Faithful Departed through the Mercy of God Rest in Peace.



Laying Foundation stone for the New Church in Peddakadubur and Kapati



New Church Opening at Kalugotla Yemmiganaur





The Diocese of Kurnool
prayerfully mourns the passing of
Most Rev. Dr. Prakash Mallavarapu,
Archbishop Emeritus of Visakhapatnam,
who entered eternal rest on 7 June 2026.

A humble shepherd and
dedicated servant of the Gospel,
he will be fondly remembered for
his exemplary leadership,
simplicity, and faithful service to the Church.
Eternal rest grant unto him,
O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace. Amen.