



KURNOOL VANI

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KURNOOL DIOCESAN SYNOD

26TH - 30TH
MAY-2025



Most Rev. Dr. Gorantla Johannes OCD



“Listening Church: Opening of the Synodal Journey”





Leo P.P. XIV

POPE LEO XIV – SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Birth Name	: Robert Francis Prevost
Date of Birth	: September 14, 1955
Place of Birth	: Chicago, Illinois, USA
Papacy Began	: May 8, 2025
Religious Order	: Order of Saint Augustine (O.S.A.)
Nationality	: American (also naturalized Peruvian)
Distinctions	: First American and first Augustinian pope

Early Life and Formation

Born in Chicago into a multicultural Catholic family, Robert Prevost was active in parish life from a young age. He earned a degree in Mathematics from Villanova University in 1977 and joined the Augustinian Order, making his solemn vows in 1981 and being ordained in 1982. He pursued further studies in theology and canon law in Chicago and Rome.

Missionary Work and Leadership

Fr. Prevost served for many years in Peru, engaging in pastoral and seminary ministry. He became a Peruvian citizen and was elected Prior General of the Augustinian Order (2001–2013). In 2015, Pope Francis appointed him Bishop of Chiclayo, where he was known for his humility and missionary zeal.

Curial Roles and Election as Pope

In 2023, he was appointed Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, and made a Cardinal. He was elected Pope on May 8, 2025, and chose the name **Leo XIV**, honoring Popes Leo I and Leo XIII.

Papal Vision

Pope Leo XIV is a bridge-builder known for pastoral sensitivity and theological depth. He continues the legacy of Pope Francis with a focus on:

- Church reform and transparency
- Empowerment of local churches
- Social justice and care for the poor
- Dialogue with modern society
- Synodality and lay participation

Rooted in Augustinian spirituality, he leads the Church with a global and inclusive vision.

The Shepherd Speaks

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

Peace to you all and Prayerful greetings! This issue of June has been delayed intentionally so as to include a comprehensive report on the Diocesan Synod meetings and its solemn conclusion on 8th June.

Election of the Holy Father: Our greetings and prayers

Let me begin this month's message expressing our profound gratitude to God for having given to the Universal Church **His Holiness Pope Leo XIV** as the chief Shepherd. We join along with the entire church in rejoicing at this election. God is present in the Church through His Spirit guiding and moving it forward. He knows better what we are truly in need of. He provides to the Church the best Shepherds suited for the times and the needs. We strongly believe this. With gratitude to God, the author of our history, **we extend to our new Holy Father our felicitations, heartfelt greetings and our prayers.** May he be filled with the Spirit of God to lead the Church in the way God wants. This is our wish and prayer for the Holy Father.



Diocesan Synod

Second important event that took place in the last few weeks was our Diocesan Synod (May 26-30). As I began my episcopal ministry in your midst, I found the need of having specific guidelines or statutes for the administration of the Diocese. Although the Universal law contains norms, particular church's context and the needs demand that we prepare our own particular laws suitable and effective for the context. Church grants the authority to formulate or determine norms concerning diocesan administration, pastoral life, liturgical life etc to the local Ordinary. **But in my wish and desire to conform myself to the call of the Holy Father Pope Francis to build a synodal church,** a church that walks together, I wanted to bring out such guidelines **only after consulting the entire diocese.** That is how, the idea of diocesan synod entered into my

thoughts. Then I found that the Code of Canon Law gives a provision in nos. 460-468 to the diocesan Bishop to convoke such a synod to seek advice and counsel for initiating novelty in his administration, in his pastoral endeavours, liturgical life etc.

I have prepared myself for this event **by visiting the diocese extensively, meeting** our big and small communities, **interacting** with them, **meeting** priests and religious thus coming to a comprehensive understanding of the diocese in all its aspects. We have also formed preparatory committees that studied specific areas of diocesan life.

Based on my personal experience, knowledge that I have acquired on every aspect of the diocese, based on what I have heard from people, priests, religious and finally the reports of the preparatory committees I have prepared *Instrumentum laboris*, the *working document* titled “**Discerning Synodal Pathways to live as a family of Believers**”. This document really guided and helped fruitful discussions in the Synod. We made every encounter during the synod fruitful. We were focussed only on the welfare of the diocese and its future. The 121 Synod members were able to give their opinions, suggestions on every aspect of the diocese freely and constructively. I really felt the guiding hand of God during this one-year journey. He guided every step we took and finally guided every thought and word during the synod. On the last day 30th May, I met the entire pastoral clergy to obtain their opinion and counsel concerning their ongoing formation and their welfare. You can see a detailed report in the following pages of this booklet.

Now, based on the counsel, advice and the opinions of the Synod, as well as the *Presbiterium*, I am preparing the post synodal document titled “**Walking together as family of believers: The Pastoral Guide of the Diocese of Kurnool**”. కలసి నడిచే విశ్వాస కుటుంబం: కర్నూలు మేత్రాసన పరిపాలనా మరియు పరిచర్య విధి విధానాలు”. Certainly, it would take little more time to compose and publish this long document. **However, on 8th June, on the day of the Pentecost, we have formally concluded the Synod with the symbolic promulgation of the post synodal document.** The Archbishop of Hyderabad, His Eminence **Cardinal Poola Anthony** celebrated the Holy Eucharist of the Pentecost and symbolically **released** the post synodal document.

My Sincere Gratitude

I wish to thank everyone that participated in the synodal journey of the diocese and made it a grand success. To the preparatory committees, to the organising committees, to the secretaries, animators, assisting staff, to the participants of the Synod and also to all those who were supporting us through their prayers. It is not my success. It is our Success. We did it as a family and so we can move forward as a family with increased enthusiasm and commitment.

Appointments and Transfers

As a further indicator of our new beginning and new Pentecost in the Church of Kurnool, we have also made all the appointments in the Diocese and transfers. **Rev. Msgr. David Arulappa is the new Vicar General of the diocese. In addition, Very Rev. Fr. Pasala Joseph, is the Episcopal Vicar for pastoral life of the diocese, Very Rev. Fr. Mesa Prasanna is the Episcopal Vicar for clergy and seminarians, Rev. Fr. O. Jojireddy is the Chancellor, Rev. Fr. Suripogula Thomas is the Procurator etc. The entire list of the appointments and transfers can be found in later pages.** I wish all the best to each one of our priests. They truly manifested the spirit of obedience and love for the Diocese and its people. I am very proud of them and very much impressed by their understanding. My sincere appreciation and gratitude!

Wherever we are or whatever we do, we are doing for Christ who called us and anointed us. Places and positions are all transitory. Nothing is permanent. We are only pilgrims. We keep moving from one place to the other. For that matter, even our lives are transitory. So let us surrender entrust ourselves and our ministries to God and to his providence. We will be effective and content wherever we are and whatever we do, when we surrender ourselves to God and His will. He is the only source of our joy!

With best wishes and blessings!

+ **Gorantla Johannes ocd**

Bishop of Kurnool

LIST OF OFFICES AND APPOINTMENTS

1. College of Consultors (9)

- 1 Fr. David Arulappa
- 2 Fr. Pagidyala Chinnappareddy
- 3 Fr. Ery Balaraju
- 4 Fr. Balakishore Ofm Cap.
- 5 Fr. Adusupally Bhaskar
- 6 Fr. Suripogula Thomas
- 7 Fr. Mesa Prasanna
- 8 Fr. Lahastraya Pasala
- 9 Fr. O. Jojireddy

2. Diocesan Offices

Sl. No.	Office	Office bearer
1.	Vicar General	Fr. David Arulappa
2.	Episcopal Vicar, Pastoral + JPC Director	Fr. P. Joseph
3.	Episcopal Vicar for Clergy & Seminarians	Fr. M. Prasanna
4.	Procurator	Fr. S. Thomas
5.	Chancellor	Fr. O. Jojireddy
6.	KDSSS Director	Fr. Thota Joseph
7.	DESK Director+Adoptions+ Samarpana	Fr. Mendem Bhaskar
8.	Youth Director	Fr. Bhaskar Sanike
9.	In charge of Samarpana	Fr. Mendem Bhaskar
10.	St. Johns Residential School	Fr. Joseph Sugadasi
11.	St. Antony's Institutions, Adoni	Fr. Mummadi Praveen
12.	In charge of Lands and Properties	Fr. Chinnappareddy
13.	St. Mary's Junior College	Fr. Fr. Bhaskar Adusu.
14.	Personal Secretary	Fr. E. Praveen
15.	Diocesan Secretary / Project Manager	Fr. Innareddy
16.	Bishop's House administrator	Fr. Manojkumar

3. Deans

S. No.	Name of the Deanery	Dean
1	Kurnool	Fr. John David
2	Nandyal	Fr. K. D. Joseph
3	Koilakuntla	Fr. G. Chinnappa
4	Adoni	Fr. G. Praveen
5	Ananthapur	Fr. Y. Jojireddy

4. Parishes/Quasi Parishes

Sl. No.	Parish	Parish Priest
1	Cathedral, Kurnool	Fr. Prathapreddy Kudumala
2	Co-Cathedral Kurnool	Fr. John David Pidudala
3	Jupad Bunglaw	Fr. Balayesu Lokadal
4	Nandikotkuru	Fr. Balaraju Ery
5	Venkayapalle	Fr. David Arulappa
6	Kalluru	Fr. Bhaskar Sanike
7	Nannuru / Uppalapadu	Fr. Lahastraya Pasala
8	Dhone	Fr. Velpula Xavier
9	Orvakallu	Fr. Kola Vijayaraj
10	Nandyal	Fr. K.D. Joseph
11	Manchalakatta	Fr. Karunakar Ellugalla
12	Gadivemula	Fr. Mendem Andrew
13	Pedda Kottala	Fr. Rayappareddy Pothireddy
14	Poluru	Fr. Prakasham Suripogula
15	Maseedupuram	Fr. Prashantha Kumara
16	Sirvella	Fr. Siddipogula Devadas
17	Bandi Athmakur	Fr. Baburaj Chinthakunta
18	Yerraguntla	Fr. Gnana Prakash Dasaripalle
19	Allagadda	Fr. Showreddy Gundampalle
20	Chagalamarri	Fr. Maxim Fernandez
21	Koilakuntla	Fr. Godugunuru Chinnappa
22	Banaganapalle	Fr. Suripogula Prakash
23	Owk	Fr. Ravi Suripogula

Sl. No.	Parish	Parish Priest
24	Adoni.....	Fr. Godugunuru Praveen
25	Alur.....	Fr. Suripogula Anand
26	Peddakaduburu	Fr. Koduru Rajendra
27	Yemmiganuru	Fr. Babu Nagipogu
28	Sambagallu	Fr. Madigala Joseph
29	Ramadurgam	Fr. Gallela Vijay
30	Pathikonda	Fr. Kommu Lourdaiah
31	Maddikera	Fr. Kashapogu Sanjeevarao
32	Anantapur	Fr. Y. Jojireddy
33	Guntakal	Fr. Anthonappa Chowrappa
34	Gooty	Fr. Elias Martis
35	P. Yaleru	Fr. Suripogula Amrutharaj
36	Tadipathri	Fr. Lakkineni Joseph
37	Dharmavaram	Fr. Kakarla Anthonyraj
38	Chaplain, Navajeevan.....	Fr. Boreddy Marreddy
39	PIME Seminary, Eluru	Fr. Thudum Sleevaraju
40	Asst. Cathedral	Fr. Kengaru Rajashekhar
41	Asst. Pastoral Centre	Fr. Kamsalapati Selvaraj
42	Asst. Guntakal	Fr. Pidudula Gabriel
43	Asst. Co-Cathedral	Fr. Gali Manohar
44	Asst. Koilakuntla	Fr. Korrapoluru Ravikumar
45	Asst. SJRS	Fr. Gonedpogu Prathap

5. Studies

- 1 Fr. Prabhudas M.Th in Liturgy, Bangalore
- 2 Fr. S. Prakasham Rome, Dogmatic Theology
- 3 Fr. E. Praveen Rome, Church History

6. Ministry Abroad

- 1 Fr. Tarun Spyer, Germany
- 2 Fr. S. Rajesh Spyer, Germany

+ **Gorantla Johannes ocd**
Bishop of Kurnool

BISHOP'S PROGRAMME

June 2025

4	Wed	11.00 am	Golden Jubilee of Sr. Pushpa JMJ, Kurnool
5	Thu	05.30 pm	Profession of CTC Sisters
8	Sun	06.00 pm	Diocesan Jubilee Celebration Chief Guest: His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony, Archbishop of Hyderabad
10	Tue	06.00 pm	Blessing of Adoration Chapel, Peddakottala
11	Wed	10.00 am	Chapel Blessing at Yerraguntla
12	Thu		In Office
13	Fri	10.00 am	Feast of St. Anthony, Chapirevula
		05.00 pm	Feast of St. Anthony, Joharapuram
15	Sun	10.00 am	Parish Feast of St. Anthony, Gospadu
16	Mon	10.30 am	Final Professions DSS Provincialate
17	Tue	10.00 am	Blessing of 14 Stations of the Cross, Sambagallu
26	Thu	10.00 am	Community Hall Blessing at Orvakal
27	Fri	10.00 am	Consultors meeting
28	Sat		Blessing of New CSA Convent, C. N Kota
29	Mon	11.00 am	Sacred Heart Church Feast, Bethamcherla First Holy Communions & Confirmations
30	Tue		In office

July – Tentative

2	Wed		In office
3	Thu	10.00 am	Renovated Church Blessing, Malkapuram, Yemmiganur
		06.00 pm	Silver Jubilee of DSS Sisters, Venkayapalle
6-11			Retreat to the diocesan clergy of Alleppy, Kerala
16	Wed	11.00 am	Profession at Carmel, Kurnool
		06.00 pm	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Ananatapur
19	Sat	06.00 pm	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast, Sunkeswari
20	Sun	09.00 am	Aluru (Church Blessing at Muddanageri/ Marlamadiki/Angaskal)
24	Thu		Mission Appeals

+ *Johannes Gorantla ocd, Bishop of Kurnool*

COMMUNICATIONS

MASS INTENTIONS:

- | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|
| 1. Our Lady of Lourdes Church,
P Yaleru parish | 100 Masses | Rs. 10000.00 |
| 2. Holy Name of Jesus Church ,
PeddaKottala | 120 Masses | Rs. 12000.00 |

HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION



● **That the world might grow in compassion:**
Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.



Heartfelt Condolences to Rev. Fr. AnakarlaPrashanth

We express our heartfelt condolences on the sad demise of **Mr. Anakarala Praveen Kumar**, beloved brother of **Rev. Fr. AnakarlaPrashanth**, who was called to eternal rest on **10th May 2025**.

We stand in solidarity with Fr. Prashanth and the bereaved family in this time of sorrow. May the Lord grant them strength and comfort, and may the soul of Praveen Kumar rest in peace in the embrace of our loving God.

"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him."



Heartfelt Condolences to Rev. Fr. Sugadasi Joseph

We deeply mourn the sad demise of **Mr. SugadasiPrabhudas**, beloved brother of **Rev. Fr. Sugadasi Joseph**, who was called to eternal rest. We express our heartfelt condolences to Fr. Joseph and the bereaved family members.

May the Lord grant eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the family to bear this great loss. Let us continue to remember him in our prayers and Holy Masses.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul rest in peace. Amen.



— Diocese of Kurnool

1. GOLDEN JUBILEE OF REV. SR. GEETHI CTC AT KRISTUJAYANTHI CARMEL BHAVAN

On May 15, 2025, the Carmel Matha Province marked the Golden Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Geethi CTC, completing 50 years of consecrated life. His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla arrived at 6:30 p.m. and was welcomed by the sisters. After a short break, the Jubilee Mass began at 6:45 p.m. with a procession including the Jubilarian. During the homily, the Bishop spoke on



faithfulness in religious life, using the image of the vine and branches to explain the connection with Christ. He also congratulated Sr. Geethi on her long service to the congregation. After the Mass, a group photo was taken with the Jubilarian. A felicitation by the Bishop, sisters, and others followed this. A meal was served to all those who attended the celebration.

2. FEAST OF NITHYASAHAYAMATHA CELEBRATED AT SIRVEL PARISH

On 24th May 2025, St. Anthony's Church, Sirvel Parish, celebrated the Feast of Nithyasahayamatha. At 10:30 a.m., Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla was welcomed at the presbytery with shawl and garland by Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Sambaturu Prabhudas, Fr. K. Raju MF, and village elders. From there, he was led to the Grotto of Nithyasahayamatha by the village youth band and firecrackers. During the homily, the Bishop spoke about the role of Mother Mary in interceding for the faithful, while reminding that Jesus is the source of blessings.



After the Mass, Fr. S. Prabhudas thanked God and Mother Mary for the blessings received. He also expressed gratitude to Bishop Johannes for his support to the parish. The Bishop was then honoured by the village elders, Legion of Mary, and parish youth. A citation was read by Prakasham, BCC animator.

About 30 priests and religious from local and nearby parishes took part in the celebration. Fr. Prabhudas thanked all clergy and religious for their participation and prayers. A fellowship meal followed the Mass for all gathered.

3. FEAST OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CELEBRATED AT PEDDA KADUBURU

On May 24, 2025, the community of Peakadabur Parish, St. Peter's Church, welcomed Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla for the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The Bishop joined the faithful in the procession. After the procession, he presided over the Mass for the feast. In his message, the Bishop reminded the people that Mary continues to pray for all. He noted the strong faith of the parishioners. Both the parish and substation communities joined in the celebration. People listened attentively to the Bishop's message. The parish priest expressed thanks to the Bishop, fellow priests, and all the faithful.



Kurnool Diocesan Synod , May 26– 30, 2025



As we all know, we had been preparing for the Synod from months, in a progressive way. By the middle of April, Bishop received the reports from all the preparatory committees. In the mean time Bishop also determined the membership for the Synod.

The General Assembly of the Synod that began on 26th May came to a conclusion on 30th May. But the actual and official conclusion was celebrated on 8th June, the Solemnity of the Pentecost with the promulgation of the post-synodal document: **“Walking together as a family of Believers: The Pastoral Guide of the Diocese of Kurnool”**. Here is an account on how the Synod was celebrated beginning from the 26th to 8th June.

Participants of the Synod

A total of 121 delegates participated in the Diocesan Synod along with the bishop. These included 34 diocesan priests, 8 religious priests, 22 religious sisters from different congregations, and 57 lay faithful. From the five deaneries, 40 lay representatives (20 men and 20 women), 10 youth leaders (5 young men and 5 young women), 5 catechists, and 1 animator were chosen.

The Working Document

To ensure fruitful and meaningful discussions during the synod, the bishop personally prepared the *Instrumentum Laboris*, the working

document, titled *“Discerning Synodal Pathways to Live as a Family of Believers.”* The purpose of the synod was defined as listening to the inspiration of the Spirit, responding to the call of the Church, understanding the heartbeat of the people, hearing their hopes and expectations, and giving attention to the voices of the delegates. The working document has foreseen every minute detail concerning the content, time management methodology to be followed etc..Using this working document, the synod was successfully held from May 26 to May 30, 2025, where the delegates discussed various themes and shared their opinions.

Day 1: May 26, 2025

The first day of the Diocesan Synod began with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration at 9:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral in Kurnool, presided over by the bishop. Delegates consisting of priests, religious, and the faithful took part in the Mass. It was during this Mass that the bishop, who had announced the forthcoming synod on December 29, 2024, formally declared its inauguration in the presence of all delegates, other priests, religious and faithful. At the beginning of his homily Bishop formally declared the second Kurnool Diocesan Synod 2025 open. And then he also once again explained to those gathered the purpose for which he called the Synod. Then continued to remember the past Shepherds of the diocese, missionaries, priests, religious and Catechist that toiled to build the diocese and expressed his profound gratitude and appreciation. We are what we are today, thanks to their relentless missionary zeal and efforts, he said. Then commenting on the readings of the day he spoke of the early Christian community. There were internal conflicts in the early church. But the Apostles in communion and dialogue with the community resolved every form of conflict. There was dialogue, openness, willingness to solve the problems and live in communion. Luke narrates not only the problems but also the ways of resolving them. Thus gives a direction to the church of all times, said the Bishop.

The first session of the general assembly of the synod began at 11:30 a.m at the well equipped Jeevasudha Pastoral centre. It lasted for one and half hour. It was a conference given by the Bishop to remind the assembly of the purpose and objectives of the synod. Then he explained about the methodology that we follow in the synod. It was the method of Spiritual Conversations. He elaborated on the attitudes and dispositions one needs to have during these days. He urged all participants to create an atmosphere of prayer and to devote more time to spiritual reflection and attentive listening to one another.

Later in the afternoon, "Liturgical Life of the Diocese of Kurnool.", was the theme. The preparatory committee presented the existing situation in the diocese and proposed some guidelines and orientations for the future renewal and amendments. After the presentation, assembly was divided into groups to discuss on the questions already prepared for each group. After the group workshop, there was a general assembly to discuss in detail the proposals of the groups and other suggestions. Discussions revolved around reforms in the liturgy, ways to help the faithful better understand and participate in the sacraments, and how to spiritually prepare communities, especially for the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Matrimony. After detailed deliberations, some clear recommendations were put forth by the delegates.

Day 2: May 27, 2025

The day began with the Holy Eucharist at 7 presided over by the College of consultors and Deans of the diocese. Fr. Prathapreddy celebrated the Mass, while Fr. Chowrappa delivered the homily. The second day's theme was "*Diocesan Pastoral Life*." The focus was on evaluating the current pastoral programs of the diocese and formulating a new pastoral plan for the future. Suggestions were made to strengthen faith through family visits and social outreach programs. One important proposal was to divide parishes into smaller faith units or communities to ensure deeper pastoral care, better communication, and stronger faith formation at the grassroot level. Further

discussions were made on the role of Catechists, Animators, and also on the role of the Pastoral centre in the diocese. Speaking of the catechists, it was unanimously felt that they should be chosen from among the faithful and be properly trained. The youth should be made active participants in pastoral activities through games, quizzes, and other creative means to communicate Christian teachings. There were also discussions on how to utilize the diocesan pastoral center effectively and on the roles and responsibilities of its director.

Day 3: May 28, 2025

On the third day, Rev. Dr. Mallavarapu Sundar celebrated the morning Mass. The day's theme was "Pastoral life in a parish". This consisted of discussions on forming parish pastoral councils, financial committees etc. Fr. Sundar who is specialized on the theme of Parish Pastoral councils explained the importance of establishing Pastoral and Financial Councils in every parish, helping delegates gain a deep understanding of their functioning. Extensive discussions followed on the administration of the parishes. There was unanimous agreement on the establishment of Parish Pastoral Councils and Finance Committees in every parish. Emphasis was placed on the moral and spiritual qualifications of those chosen as members. The delegates resolved that all decisions and financial transactions must be handled with transparency and accountability.

Day 4: May 29, 2025

The religious priests present in the Synod presided over the Eucharistic celebration. Rev. Fr. Ajeesh VC celebrated the Mass while Fr. Uvari Antony SJ delivered the homily. The fourth day's theme was "social and educational apostolate in the diocese". Delegates reviewed the diocesan social service ministries and future action plans. Proposals were made to provide facilities for poor patients in hospitals, conduct skill development camps for youth, and raise awareness about government welfare schemes for the underprivileged. The educational ministry was also reviewed. Delegates

stressed the need for many reforms in the diocesan education system and strongly advocated for promoting digital learning, science, sports, and cultural activities. Everyone acknowledged the diocese's commendable efforts in providing education to poor children. The bishop assured that the diocese would continue supporting higher education and encouraged the establishment of new higher education institutions.

Day 5: May 30, 2025

On the final day, the Eucharist was celebrated as usual at 7 am by the Bishop himself. The day was dedicated to temporal goods and the protection of the vulnerable. In the first session, the discussions and deliberations were on the ways to protect our lands and properties. Delegates suggested taking swift and systematic action to safeguard Church properties and advocated for digitizing all records. In the second session, the deliberations were about the ways of preprotecting the vulnerable in our Church and ecclesiastical premises. All felt the need to ensure that church premises be safe spaces for women and children. Every precaution has to be taken to protect the church from any form of abuses.

In the final moments of the general assembly, participants had the chance to express their feelings about the experience of these five days. They expressed joy in having learned many things about the diocese and appreciated the synod as a grace-filled experience.

On the same day, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., the bishop held a special session with the diocesan clergy to hear their views on priestly formation and well-being. Topics discussed included vocations, seminary formation, ongoing formation of the priests, and the overall welfare of the clergy. Priests shared their opinions freely and extensively. The day ended with the announcement of all the offices in the diocese as well as the transfers.

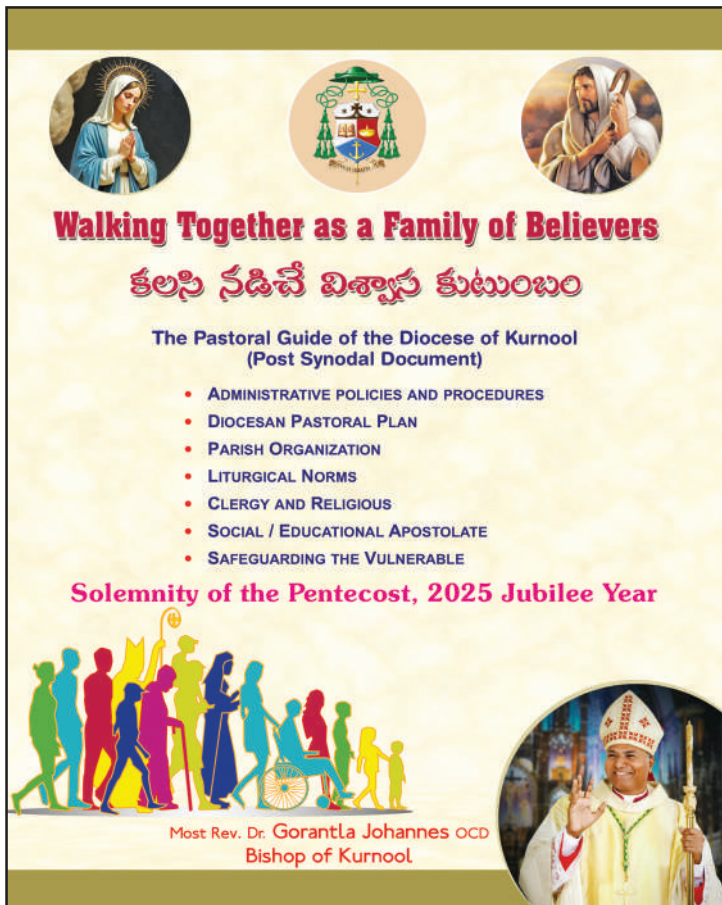
Official Closing Ceremony of the Synod

June 8, 2025, remains a memorable day in the history of the Diocese of Kurnool. On the feast of Pentecost, the Diocesan Synod 2025 was officially concluded. His Eminence Cardinal Anthony Poola, the Archbishop of Hyderabad, presided over the concluding Holy Eucharist. During the closing Eucharist at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral, presided over by Cardinal Poola, Bishop Johannes Gorantla officially promulgated the post synodal document **“WALKING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY OF BELIEVERS”**: *Pastoral guide of the Diocese of Kurnool*. This document includes diocesan



administrative policies, diocesan pastoral plan, liturgical reforms, the new parish administrative model, social and educational ministries, and protection of the vulnerable. The book was released by His Eminence Cardinal Poola Anthony.

This document stands as the fruit of the Diocesan Synod and marks a new chapter in the history of the diocese. The bishop urged that, going forward, the contents of this guide should be implemented in every parish and deanery, with the cooperation of all.



Highlights in Pictures: Synod 2025 at Kurnool, May 26–30





Ten Groups of the Synod





Ten Secretaries of the Groups for the Synod



A Synodal Family: Lay Men and Women, Youth, Consecrated, and Clergy



Three Celebrations Mark Parish Feast at Our Lady of Lourdes, Yaleru

The Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, Yaleru, observed its feast of Visitation of St. Mary to St. Elizabeth, with three events on 31st May at 5:30 pm. Most Rev. Dr. Johannes Gorantla, OCD, presided over the celebrations. A newly built water shed with a drinking water plant was inaugurated. The community hall, renovated for parish use, was also blessed. The bishop administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 85 young members of the parish and surrounding areas. Parishioners participated in large numbers. The day concluded with community fellowship and prayer.

(Report by Rev. Fr. M. Bhaskar)



June 2025

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF SR. PUSHPA JMJ

The Golden Jubilee of Religious Profession of **Sr. Pushpa JMJ** was joyfully celebrated with a solemn Holy Mass at **JMJ College, Kurnool**, on 4th June, 2025. The celebration was marked by gratitude and joy for her 50 years of faithful service in the congregation of Jesus Mary Joseph.

The Holy Eucharist was presided over by **Most Rev. Dr. G. Johannes**, Bishop of Kurnool, in the presence of many sisters, clergy, staff, students, and well-wishers. In his homily, the Bishop reflected on **the joy of serving the**

Lord and highlighted **dedication and commitment** as the foundation of a fruitful religious life. He thanked Sr. Pushpa for her long-standing witness and service in the field of education and formation.



The celebration concluded with felicitation and a short cultural program honoring Sr. Pushpa's golden journey of faith and service.

FIRST AND FINAL PROFESSION AT CTC PROVINCIALATE, VENKAYAPALLE



A joyful and grace-filled celebration of **Religious Profession** was held at the **CTC Provincialate, Venkayapalle**, on 4th June, 2025. The Holy Mass was presided over by **Most Rev. Dr. G. Johannes**, Bishop of Kurnool.

During the Eucharistic celebration, **Sr. Tejus CTC** made her **Perpetual Profession**, committing herself totally to the Lord in the congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of St. Teresa (CTC). On the same occasion, **Sr. Sabitha CTC** and **Sr. Srujala CTC** made their **First Profession**, beginning their journey of consecrated life.

In his homily, the Bishop emphasized the beauty of responding to God's call with love and faithfulness. He encouraged the

sisters to remain rooted in prayer, service, and the charism of their congregation. The celebration concluded with heartfelt congratulations and joyful fellowship.

1. "A CIGARETTE TODAY, A COFFIN TOMORROW"

With the theme of WHO on World No Tobacco Day 2025 i.e. unmasking the Appeal; Exploring Industry Tactics on Tobacco and Nicotine products aims to reveal the deceptive tactics of industries. Why because the industries



highlight the ways the tobacco and nicotine by using marketing, advertising and produce the design to attract the users particularly the youth. So promoting the right to breathe clean air and the importance of smoke-free environment to prevent future generations from falling prey to the harmful impact of tobacco use. We have to encourage and support the individuals, communities and organizations to unite in this fight against tobacco. The using of tobacco leading cause preventable deaths worldwide, killing over 8 million people each year. It is responsible for numerous cancers, heart diseases, respiratory illnesses and other debilitation conditions. The global initiatives launched World No Tobacco Day by WHO in 1987 and observed annually on May 31st of every year. This World No Tobacco Day, lets reaffirm our commitment to healthier future free from the harms of Tobacco and nicotine products and we must stand together to protect children and future generation from the tobacco industries. And the village of Uppaladadiya felt happy, promised themselves that to say No Tobacco in their houses, surroundings and in the public places like bus stands, railway stations, hospitals etc. Rev. Fr. Madhu the parish priest of Uppaladadiya and the KDSSS team also took part in this awareness program.

2. "DON'T LET TOBACCO SHORTEN YOUR LIFE"

"Tobacco-free youth" thinking about the lines to save the future generations Rev. S. Bhaskar, Director of KDSSS had conducted an awareness program and stated that people around the world can claim their right to health and healthier breathing living and to save the future generations. And this special day further intended to draw attention to the widespread prevalence of tobacco use and the negative health effects which eventually lead to more than 8 million deaths each year in worldwide including 1.2 million as the result of non-smokers being exposed to second hand smoke. We being a human who has responsibility of the future generations for smoke free, tobacco future free and pollution free must have the awareness of the tobacco products and

usages which gives immense harm to our health and other planet health. Mr. Danamaiah said that this type of campaign, awareness programs enlightens the people's mind and encourages them to prevent and oppose



the tobacco users in whatever the intake. And being aware of the tobacco addicts and whose lives are in stake with tobacco should stop the tobacco industry targets for a lifetime of profits creating and attracting by new waves of marketing tactics. And this tobacco use will cause deadly disease like cardiovascular and respiratory diseases and all over 20 different types of cancers and many other debilitates health conditions. We want to create a generation that is free from tobacco and second-hand smoke. Protect children from tobacco industry interference. Let's create a world where everyone has a right to health and healthy living. The group was very happy for the awareness program and started to think over for tobacco eradication and KDSSS team also joined and given supportive hand to the users.

- Rev. Fr. Sanike Bhaskar, KDSSS-Kurnool

1) COLLECTIONS IN BOARDING HOMES:

As per the policy of the Diocese, the boarding“in charges are allowed to collect from the DESK students only Rs. 3,000/- per year and the parents will be paying this amount in three installments. Kindly don’t“demand from the children more than this for any reason. If you have any kind of other collections apart from this please make known to the DESK. If there is any“change the DESK will intimate to you.

2) COLLECTIONS IN SCHOOLS:

School managements are strictly advised to follow the“Diocesan policies in collecting the fee from Catholic students. You have to collect only 50% of the monthly tuition school fees. There is no admission fee. If the same parents have three children studying in the same school the third child need not pay any fee of the 50% of the monthly tuition school fee. This provision does not“apply to children of the rich and of the government salaried parents. If there is any change the DESK will intimate to you.

3) FOR EASY COMMUNICATION:

Certainly, there will be some transfers in each“religious community therefore DESK would like to know the newly appointed“Boarding in charges, HM’s and Correspondents of your institutions. It will help us“to send important communications with regard to the boardings and schools. Kindly“contact Fr. M. Bhaskar, DESK-Director for any information. His contact number is 9908507026.

4) DESK SELECTS NEW STUDENTS FOR SJRS:

DESK selected six students for SJRS for this academic year completing the selection process on June 7th. SJRS teachers and DESK Director interacted with the six year olds and their parents on June 7th at SJRS.

Diocesan Educational Society Kurnool (DESK) takes great care of Saint John's Residential School (SJRS). SJRS is a brainchild of late Bishop Johannes Gorantla, an educational institution of excellence to cater to the poor. It always keeps up its excellence. This school does not admit children of government employees and rich parents to cater only to the poor. Education here is absolutely free and the school provides for all the needs of the students.

DESK received a total of 31 applications this year. Ten of them were not eligible as they did not comply with the dates of birth or baptism and one did not come for the interview. All the other 20 appeared for interview and only six children passed. So these six children are selected in consultation with the Diocesan Bishop. DESK appreciates the parish priests who facilitated the admission of their poor children into this school which will change their future for good. Only 8 parishes took interest in their poor. DESK congratulates and appreciates these priests by naming their parishes: Alur, Bethemcherla, Gooty, Pedda Kadabur, Sambagal, Sirvel, Sunkeswari and Yemmiganur. The DESK sincerely thanks all the priests who cooperated with desk.

(Fr. Andrew Mendem, DESK-Director)

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 diseased member, in whose name the foundation mass is established. To establish a foundation Mass, the minimum donation has to be Rs. 50,000.

- 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.

As of now:

I. For the soul of :

1. Nusi Susheelamma by her familyRs. 50,000/-
2. Joseph Ming Chuan KungRs. 50,000/-
3. Joseph YoungRs. 50,000/-
4. Joseph Dai-Moon YoungRs. 50,000/-
5. Maureen Elizabeth Clearkin
By Fr Vijaya Amrutha RajRs. 50,000/-
6. Fr. Pyreddy Francis XavierRs. 1,00,000/-

II. For the intentions of :

1. Vangala Anthonamma from ChagalamarriRs. 2,00,000/-
2. Agnes KungRs. 50,000/-
3. Fr. B. MarreddyRs. 50,000/-

THE DAYS TO REMEMBER

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

Rev. Fr. K. Anthony Raj	01-06-1964	Rev. Fr. T. Joseph	08-06-1974
Rev. Fr. S. Joseph	01-06-1983	Rev. Fr. G. Chinnappa	19-06-1980
Rev. Fr. E. Karunakar	01-06-1982	Rev. Fr. P. Joseph	27-06-1977
Rev. Fr. M. Raveendra	01-06-1983		

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



Rev. Fr. G. Swaminadhan 02-06-1978

Rev. Fr. Ravi 13-06-2020

RIP

Rev. Fr. G. Shouriah	09-06-1980
Rev. Fr. Abraham Thakadiel	15-06-2019
Rev. Fr. K. F. Chinnappa	17-06-2011
Rev. Fr. Philp	18-06-2011
Rev. Fr. N. Lourdu Prakash	20-06-2021
Rev. Fr. Thomas Poovatholil	22-06-2010
Rev. Fr. Joseph Vatticad	26-06-2003
Rev. Fr. Mathew Elipulikkat	28-06-1992
Rev. Fr. Kaspathi Joji Reddy	29-06-2009



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

“From Consultation to Communion: Synod 2025 Concludes”



“One Family of Faith: Clergy, Religious and Laitty Together”

