

#### **DIOCESE OF TRINCOMALEE**

#### **JULY 2024**

### INDIGENOUS CLERGY & RELIGIOUS SUNDAY - 28.07.2024



God's calling is empowered by Prayer



Grand opening of the Caritas-EHED Food City Complex (Food City, Resturant & Guest Villa) - 22.05.2024



Legion of Mary - Acies Festival, Anpuvalipuram - 08.06.2024



Feast of St. Anthony of Padua, St. Mary's Cathedral - 16.06.2024



My Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers, Greetings in the name of Jesus!

Month of June was dedicated to Church feasts of St. Anthony of Padua, a prominent saint in the Catholic Church. I appreciate all those priests and lay faithful who were involved in organizing these feasts.

Feast of St. Thomas falls on 3rd June, St. Thomas known as doubting Thomas was instrumental in helping us learn the amount of faith we should have as Christians. God makes crooked paths straight.

16th of June is the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Mount Carmel refers to the Carmelite Monastery named Stella Maris on the northwest coast of Israel. This monastery is built over a cave believed to have been where the prophet Elijah, inspired by God, challenged 450 prophets of Baal in a contest to the death. Following Elijah other hermits, specially Elisha lived in the caves of Mount Carmel. This tradition continued and the order of Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, later known as the Carmelites, was formed. A chapel was created dedicated to Mary, star of the Sea, Stella Maris. Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the patroness of Carmelites. We wish Sisters of Apostolic Carmelites a happy Feast. We appreciate your services in the diocese and wish you God's numerous blessings.

Feast of St. James falls on 25th July. He was one of three special disciples of Jesus who had the privilege to witness the transfiguration of Our Lord. Church tradition has a long story about his ministry after the death of Jesus. It is also the feast of Velveri, a unique place where we have a farm with paddy fields and a church dedicated to St. James. There will be a gathering at Velveri on Saturday on 27th of July marking the feast. All are welcome.

28th of July is Indigenous Clergy and Religious Sunday. This is an occasion to create awareness among our faithful to work hand in hand towards promoting vocation among present generation. We need priests to serve in the diocese. We have handful of minor seminarians and it takes years for them to go through formation before becoming priests. Its everyone's responsibility. Hence, let us work together to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us support and encourage our children and help them identify their vocation. May our Lady, patroness of priests guides our efforts.

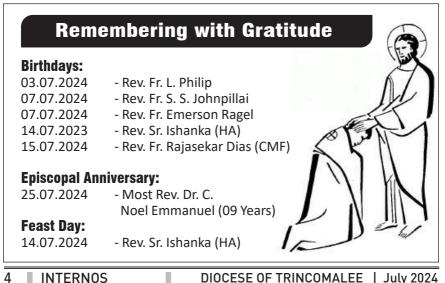
31st of July is the memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola. This is a solemnity for our diocese as St. Loyola is the patron of our diocese. He is also the founder of the Society of Jesus. Jesuits have played an important role in our diocese in the fields of education, sports and pastoral mission. We are grateful for their services. At present they are serving at Andankulam and Guadalupe parishes. We wish them a happy feast and God's abundant blessings.

God bless,

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🕆 Rt. Rev. Dr. Christian Noel Emmanuel

Bishop of Trincomalee.



# Indigenous Clergy & Religious Sunday - 28.07.2024 PONTIFICAL SOCIETY OF PETER THE APOSTLE

The Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle (often shortened to Peter's Pence) is an international Catholic organization dedicated to supporting the training of priests and catechists in mission dioceses worldwide. It was founded in 1889 by Jean-Baptiste Brondel, a French missionary bishop, with the approval of Pope Leo XIII.

The Society's primary purpose is to collect financial support from Catholics worldwide to fund the education and formation of priests and lay catechists in regions with a clergy shortage. This helps to strengthen the Church's presence and mission in areas with limited resources.

The Society's donations are a lifeline for seminarians and lay leaders in mission territories. These funds provide scholarships and financial aid, enabling them to pursue their studies and contribute to their local communities. This support is instrumental in helping local churches in developing countries to become self-sufficient and to continue spreading the Gospel effectively.

Every year, the Society reaches out to Catholics worldwide, urging them to contribute to the education and formation of future clergy and lay leaders in mission dioceses. The

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need for financial support is constant, and every contribution, whether through special collections in parishes or direct donations to the Society, is a vital step towards ensuring the Church's growth and mission in these areas.

Overall, the Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle plays a significant role in fostering the growth of the Church in areas where it is most needed by ensuring that there are enough trained clergy and catechists to serve the faithful and spread the teachings of the Catholic Church.

#### Pope's Prayer intention for the month of April 2024

#### For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.







Holy Father, Pope Francis addressed to the leaders of the Intergovernmental Forum of the G7, concerning the effects of artificial intelligence on the future of humanity, on June 14, 2024 in Italy.

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# St. Ignating of Loyola and the Society of Jesus in the 21st Century

St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), established the order in the 16th Century with a mission to serve the Church through education, missionary work, and engagement in various ministries. His vision and spirituality have continued to shape the Jesuits into the 21st Century, adapting to contemporary challenges and global contexts.

#### **Relevance of Ignatian Spirituality**

**1.Spiritual Foundations:** Ignatian spirituality emphasizes finding God in all things and discerning God's will through prayerful reflection. This remains central to Jesuit identity and guides their approach to mission and ministry today.

2. Educational Mission: Jesuits have been known for their commitment to education from the beginning. They founded numerous schools and universities worldwide, continuing to provide quality education grounded in Ignatian values.

**3. Social Justice and Advocacy:** Inspired by Ignatian principles, Jesuits have actively promoted social justice, human rights, and advocacy for marginalized communities. This commit ment is visible in their involvement in refugee services, the althcare, and

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healthcare, and efforts towards global solidarity.

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#### Challenges and Adaptations in the 21st Century

- 1. Globalization and Diversity: The Society of Jesus has become increasingly diverse and globalized, reflecting the changing demographics of its members and the communities it serves. This diversity enriches its mission but also presents challenges in maintaining unity and coherence.
- 2. **Engagement with Modern Issues:** Jesuits have adapted their ministries to address modern challenges such as environmental degradation, economic inequality, and interreligious dialogue. They continue to innovate their approaches while remaining faithful to Ignatian spirituality.
- 3. **Technology and Communication:** Utilizing modern technology, Jesuits engage in digital evangelization, education through online platforms, and advocacy through social media, reaching broader audiences globally.
- 4. **Formation and Leadership:** Jesuit formation today incorporates insights from psychology, sociology, and other disciplines alongside traditional spiritual formation to equip members for effective leadership and service in a rapidly changing world.

#### Initiatives and Impact

- 1. Interfaith Dialogue: Jesuits actively engage in dialogue with other religions, promoting understanding and cooperation in a multicultural world.
- 2. Environmental Advocacy: Inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si'," Jesuits have prioritized ecological advocacy and sustainability initiatives.
- **3.** Youth and Education: Jesuit schools and universities remain influential in shaping young minds globally, instilling values of justice, service, and leadership.

In summary, St. Ignatius' vision continues to inspire and guide the Society of Jesus in addressing contemporary challenges while remaining rooted in their foundational spirituality. The Jesuits' adaptability and commitment to service and justice ensure their relevance and impact in the 21st Century.

# Pilgrims of hope on an ecumenical journey

On Thursday morning, 20 June, the Holy Father met with a Delegation of the Lutheran World Federation. He called on Lutherans and Catholics to "confidently continue as pilgrims of hope" in the ongoing dialogue "of truth and charity", recalling "our common spiritual origin" in "one baptism for the forgiveness of sins". The following is the English text of the Pope's address.

#### Dear brothers and sisters,

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" (Rom 15:13).

I extend a warm welcome to all of you, the regional delegates of the Lutheran World Federation. I am especially grateful for the kind words and the gift presented to me by the new President, Bishop Henrik Stubkjær. I also greet the Reverend Anne Burghardt, who has served as General Secretary for a number of years.

Thank you for your visit, which I consider an important gesture of ecumenical fraternity. For this reason, in my initial greeting I chose the words of the Apostle Paul from the Letter to the Romans, words that have accompanied your recent consultations. May the "God of hope" now also bless our meeting today. For all of us are pilgrims of hope, as we are reminded by the motto chosen for the Holy Year of 2025.

Three years ago, when another delegation of the Lutheran World Federation came here to Rome, we reflected together on celebrating the approaching anniversary of the First Council of Nicaea as an ecumenical event. Last year, at the General Assembly of your Federation in Krakow, you, Dr Burghardt, together with my dear brother, Cardinal Koch, emphasized in a

joint statement that, "the ancient Christian Creed of Nicaea, whose 1700th anniversary we will celebrate in 2025, creates an ecumenical bond that has its center in Christ" (Common Word of the Lutheran World Federation and the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity, 19 September 2023). In this context, you rightly pointed to a fine sign of hope that holds a special place in the history of reconciliation between Catholics and Lutherans. Even before the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, Catholics and Lutherans in the United States of America bore witness together that: "The confession that our Lord Jesus Christ is the Son, God of God, continues to assure us that we are in fact redeemed, for only he who is God can redeem us" (The Status of the Nicene Creed as Dogma of the Church, Baltimore, 7 July 1965).

Jesus Christ is the heart of ecumenism. He is divine mercy incarnate, and our ecumenical mission is to bear witness to him. In the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification, Lutherans and Catholics formulated the common goal of "confessing Christ in all things, who alone is to be trusted above all things as the one Mediator (cf. 1 Tim 2:5f) through whom God in the Holy Spirit gives himself and pours out his renewing gifts" (No. 18).

Dear brothers and sisters, twenty-five years have passed since the signing of the Official Common Statement confirming that Declaration. That event, which took place on 31 October 1999 in Augsburg, represented yet another sign of hope in our history of reconciliation. Let us cherish its memory as something ever alive. May this twenty-fifth anniversary be observed in our communities as a celebration of hope. Let us remember that our shared spiritual roots are found in the "one baptism for the forgiveness of sins" (Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed) and thus move forward with confidence as "pilgrims of hope". May the God of hope be with us and continue to accompany our dialogue of truth and charity with his blessing.

On this journey of ecumenism, I am reminded of a beautiful comment made by Bishop Zizioulas. This Orthodox Bishop, a pioneer of ecumenism, used to say that he knew the date of when Christians would unite: the day of the final judgment! But in the meantime, he said that we must walk together, pray together and do charitable work together, as we head toward that "hyper-ecumenical" day of the final judgment. He really said that; Zizioulas had a good sense of humor!

Once again, I thank you most heartily for your visit. Now I would invite you to join in praying the Our Father, each of you in his or her own language. Thank you. Courtesy:https://www.osservatoreromano.va/en/news/2024-06/ing-025/pilgrims-of-hope-onan-ecumenical-journey.html. (26.06.2024)



Diocesan Directors' Meeting of Social Communications, Colombo - 20.06.2024



Inter parishes Cricket encounter organized by the CYF of Orr's Hill Parish - 21.06.2024



Pope's Sunday celebration, St. Mary's Cathedral - 23.06.2028



Feast of St. Anthony of Padua, China-Bay Parish - 30.06.2024

# Hearty Congratulations

We, the Vicar General, Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese, extend our warmest greetings and prayers to His Lordship the Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Christian Noel Emmanuel, on the 9th Anniversary of His Episcopal Ordination on July 25, 2024.



#### Happy Feast

We, the Bishop, Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese, extend our prayerful wishes both to the Apostolic Carmelite Sisters on the patronal feast of Mount Carmel on July 16, 2024, and the Jesuits serving in the diocese and spread the world over are celebrating the feast of their founder, St. Ignatius of Loyola, who is the Patron of the Diocese too, on July 31, 2024.



#### Rest in Peace

We, the Bishop, Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese, join with family members of Rev. Fr. A. Rohan Bernard, the Parish Priest of Sampaltivu and the Director of Catechetics & Education Apostolate, who lost his beloved mother, Mrs. A. Angeleena Kalawathy on June 22, 2024 and pray for her eternal reward.



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