



INTERNOS

UBI CARITAS ET AMOR UBI DEVS EST



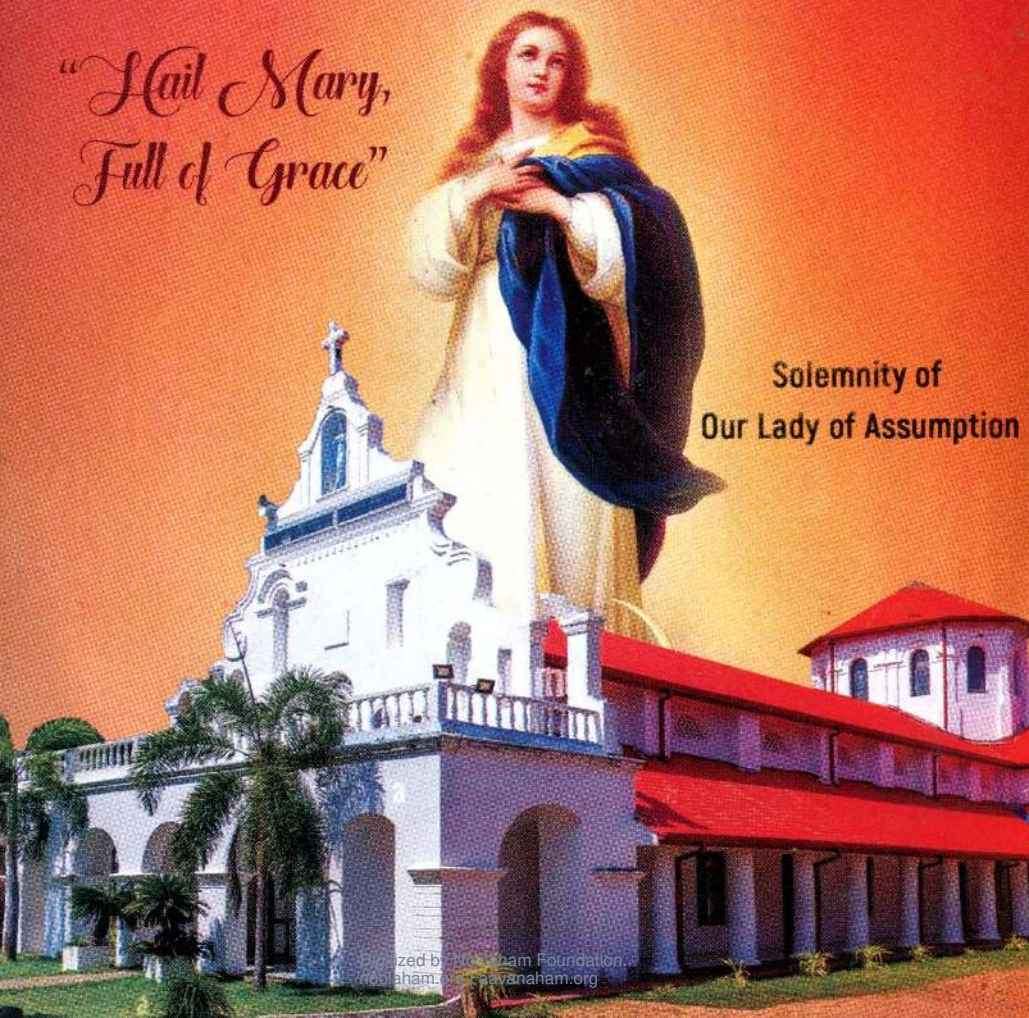
DIOCESE OF TRINCOMALEE

AUGUST 2023

130 Years of Pastoral Journey of the Diocese
1893 - 2023

*"Hail Mary,
Full of Grace"*

Solemnity of
Our Lady of Assumption





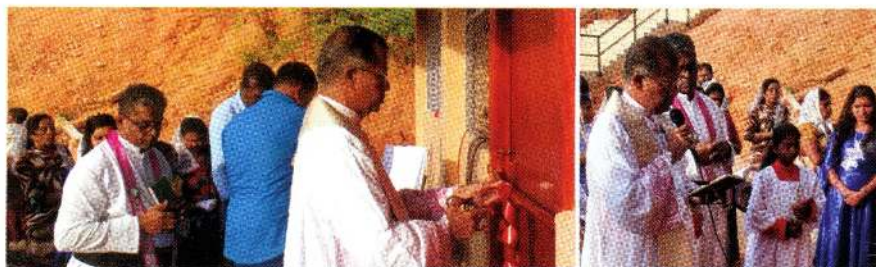
Blood Donation Camp organized by the Catholic Youth Federation of the Diocese on July 2, 2023



A Special Seminar was conducted for the CYF members on July 8, 2023.
The resource person of the said seminar was Rev. Fr. Joseph Geethapongalan from Spain.



Bishop Norbert Anradi (OMI) of Anuradhapura Diocese and Bishop Raymond Wickramasinghe of Galle Diocese paid a one-day visit to Trincomalee and offered the Eucharistic Celebration at Cod-Bay (China Bay Parish) along with His Lordship the Bishop and the Parish Priest on July 13, 2023.



A newly constructed Community Centre blessed and opened by His Lordship the Bishop at Siluvai Malai, Sampalthivu Parish on July 15, 2023



Bishop's Message



My Dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,
Fraternal Greeting to all,

We had two major programmes during the month of July. Seminar for Youth on 8th of July. Rev. Fr. Joseph Keethapongalam serving in a diocese in Spain conducted this seminar from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm. He touched upon various themes that concerns youth of today. There was a good response from the participants as the programme had serious impact on the life of youth. Rev. Fr. Emerson Ragal was present throughout the programme. Rev. Fr. X.I. Rajeeva, Director for Catholic Youth Federation made all arrangements.

We thank and appreciate Rev. Fr. X.I. Rajeeva and Rev. Fr. Joseph Keethapongalam for organizing and conducting this programme. 103 youth from all parishes participated.

Felicitation ceremony for students who excelled in Bible competition conducted by the Department of Christian Religious Affairs. Certificates were awarded to those children who scored highest marks during the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022. Rev. Fr. Rohan Bernard, Director Catechetical and Biblical Apostolates organized this Felicitation ceremony. We appreciate Fr. Rohan for organizing this event.

Feast of St. John Mary Vianney falls on 4th of July. He is the Patron Saint of Clergy throughout the world. Born as a shepherd boy he went through enough struggles to become a priest. As a priest he was one of great priests simply because he was faithful. He was sent to Ars as chaplain to a small town where people never bothered about spirituality. He took prayer and mortification as his powerful tool to bring about change in the

hearts of his faithful. He was in the confessional 16 hours a day. He had the supernatural gift of knowing exactly what to say to penitents, reminding them of sins they had forgotten or were afraid to confess. We initiated in our diocese of Trincomalee regular confession in all parishes. Wednesday was chosen for priests to be available in all parishes – one hour in the evening leading people to God and to reconciliation is our mission. It is done by preaching, reaching out, consoling, confession etc. Let us be firm in making the Sacrament of confession available for our faithful.

St. Maximilian Kolbe whose feast is celebrated on 14th July is another saint to remember. He offered his life in order to save a prisoner. He went through severe torture before he died. It was a huge sacrifice challenging us to sacrifice our time, pleasure, selfishness and ego.

We celebrate 130th anniversary of our diocese on 25th August. Let us remember with gratitude Bishops, priests religious and lay faithful who made their contribution towards the development of the diocese. Let us continue their spirit of commitment and generosity and serve our people tirelessly.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is another Solemnity we celebrate remembering and venerating Our Beloved Mother. It is also the feast of St. Mary's Cathedral. Mother Mary played a unique role in the life and mission of Jesus. She was a specially chosen one of God. She continues to intercede for us. Let us follow her exemplary life and inculcate her Virtus of humility, obedience and virginity.

Rev. Fr. Barnabas Paul Robinson will be celebrating 25th Anniversary of his Priestly Ordination on 18th August. We wish him God's choicest blessings. He has undertaken responsibilities such as Vicar General, Chancellor, Director Ehed-Caritas, Procurator General and Thampalahamam Parish. We will be organizing Jubilee Holy Mass on Saturday the 19th of August. We will notify you details of this programme.

God bless you,

✠ **Rt. Rev. Dr. Noel Emmanuel**

Bishop of Trincomalee.



Bishop's Diary

- July 2023

01 Tuesday	-	Minor Seminary Feast
	8.00 am	Holy Mass Followed by games and gathering.
05 Saturday	- 7.30 am	Festive Mass at St. Antony's Shrine, Periyakaddu in Mannar Diocese.
06 Sunday	- 7.00 am	Festive Mass at Anpuvelipuram
12 Saturday	- 9.00-11.00 am	Meeting with selected Laity of Nilaveli Vicariate.
13 Sunday	- 7.15 am	Confirmation at Sampalthivu.
15 Tuesday	- 7.00 am	Festive Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral.
16 Wednesday	- 8.00 am	Meeting of Migrants Commission in Colombo.
19 Saturday	- 9.00 am	Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Diocesan Pastoral Council.
22 - 24 August	-	Catholic Bishops Conference in Colombo.
25 Aug - 13 Sept	-	Mission Preaching in Canada.

Pope's Prayer Intention for the Month of July

For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon
will help young people to live and
witness the Gospel in their own lives.



Keep in Your Prayers

Rev. Fr. S.S. Johnpillai is receiving treatment for
his sickness. He needs our prayers, uphold him in
your prayers

Diocese of Trincomalee:

130 Years of Historical Journey

(1893 – 2023)



On 25th August 1893, the new Diocese of Trincomalee was formally declared by His Holiness, Pope Leo 13th.

The newly created diocese was formed from the parts of both Colombo and Jaffna dioceses.

The new diocese consists of the whole of Eastern Province and the district of Thammankaduwa (Polonnaruwa).

On 23rd October 1967, the name of the diocese changed to Diocese of Trincomalee-Batticaloa.

On 19th December 1975, the Prefecture Apostolic of Anuradhapura was erected with the inclusion of Anuradhapura District from the Diocese of Jaffna and Polonnaruwa from the Diocese of Trincomalee-Batticaloa.

On 3rd July 2012 Civil districts of Batticaloa and Ampara were carved out from the Diocese of Trincomalee-Batticaloa and a new Diocese of Batticaloa was formed. Most Rev. Dr. Joseph Ponniah was appointed as the first Bishop of the newly created diocese.

On 3rd July 2012 onwards once again the diocese was called by

the name of 'The Diocese of Trincomalee and Most Rev. Dr. J. Kingsley Swampillai continued function as the bishop of the diocese.

On 25th July 2015 Most Rev. Dr. C. Noel Emmanuel was consecrated as the seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Trincomalee.

At present the Diocese of Trincomalee functions under three vicariates namely, Trincomalee, Mutur, and Nilaveli with eighteen parishes.

Thirty-six priests (22 Diocesan and 14 Religious) are serving at different parishes and apostolic missions.

Five women and a men (brothers) religious congregations are involved with specific pastoral activities about their charism.

Both men's and women's lay organizations are functioning at parish, deanery, and diocesan levels to advance the pastoral ministry of the diocese.

Remembering the Father of Basketball Rev. Fr. Eugene Herbert (SJ)



Late Rev. Fr. Eugene Herbert (SJ) was an American Jesuit Missionary who worked in the then Diocese of Trincomalee -- Batticaloa. He was found missing while returning from Valaichchenai after evacuating safely the Parish Priest and the nuns

who were in immense danger of their lives. He sacrificed his life at the expense of trying to save one of his trainees who was pillion in his scooter. But both were abducted and killed on August 15, 1990.

He is best known throughout the island for his basketball coaching ability. He is called the 'Father of Basketball'. He was assigned to St Joseph's College in Trincomalee as a teacher and sports coach from 1956 to 1978. He was named principal there for a brief period.

Pope Francis to create 21 new Cardinals

After praying the Angelus on Sunday, 9 July, Pope Francis announced that he will create 21 cardinals during a consistory on 30 September.

Here are the names of the new Cardinals:

Archbishop Robert Francis PREVOST, O.S.A. , Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops;
Archbishop Claudio GUGEROTTI, Prefect of the Dicastery for Eastern Churches;



Archbishop Víctor Manuel FERNÁNDEZ , Prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith;

Archbishop Emil Paul TSCHERRIG , Apostolic Nuncio;

Archbishop Christophe Louis Yves Georges PIERRE , Apostolic Nuncio;

Archbishop Pierbattista PIZZABALLA , Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem;

Archbishop Stephen BRISLIN , Archbishop of Cape Town (Kapaastad);

Archbishop Ángel Sixto ROSSI, S.J. , Archbishop of Córdoba;

Archbishop Luis José RUEDA APARICIO , Archbishop of Bogotá;

Archbishop Grzegorz RYŚ , Archbishop of Łódź;

Archbishop Stephen Ameyu Martin MULLA , Archbishop of Juba;

Archbishop José COBO CANO , Archbishop of Madrid;

Archbishop Protase RUGAMBWA , Coadjutor Archbishop of Tabora;

Bishop Sebastian FRANCIS , Bishop of Penang;

Bishop Stephen CHOW SAU-YAN, S.J. , Bishop of Hong Kong;

Bishop François—Xavier BUSTILLO, O.F.M. CONV. , Bishop of Ajaccio; (08)

Bishop Américo Manuel ALVES AGUIAR , Auxiliary Bishop of Lisbon;

Reverend Ángel FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME, S.D.B. , Rector Major of the Salesians.

Together with them, two archbishops and one religious who have distinguished themselves for their service to the Church:

Archbishop Agostino MARCHETTO, Apostolic Nuncio;

Archbishop Diego Rafael PADRÓN SÁNCHEZ, Archbishop Emeritus of Cumaná;
Father Luis Pascual DRI, OFM CAP., Confessor of the Shrine of Our Lady of
Pompei, Buenos Aires.

Let us pray for the new Cardinals, so that, confirming their adhesion to
Christ, the merciful and faithful High Priest (cf. Heb 2:17), they may help me
in my ministry as Bishop of Rome for the good of the entire faithful Holy
People of God.

<https://www.osservatoreromano.va/en/news/2023-07/ing-028/pope-francis-to-create-21-new-cardinals.html>.

World Youth Day – 2023

The 2023 World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, beginning on Tuesday, August 1, and concluding on Sunday, August 6.

The 2023 World Youth Day theme comes from the Gospel of Luke. After the Angel Gabriel announced to her that she would bear the Son of God (the Annunciation), Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth (the Visitation). Pope Francis reflected,

“Mary could have focused on herself and her own worries and fears about her new condition. Instead, she entrusted herself completely to God. Her thoughts turned to Elizabeth. She got up and went forth, into the world of life and movement.”

And she went quickly as a pilgrim and a beacon of hope. Thus, the 2023 WYD theme is “Mary arose and went with haste” (Lk 1:39).

Mary did not turn inward but outward to encounter her cousin Elizabeth, following God’s desire for her life.

“In these troubling times, when our human family, already tested by the trauma of the pandemic, is racked by the tragedy of war, Mary shows to all of us, and especially to you, young people like herself, the path of proximity and encounter. I hope and I firmly believe that the experience many of you will have in Lisbon next August will represent a new beginning for you, the young, and – with you – for humanity as a whole.”

Prayerful Wishes



Sri Lankan Participant to the
XVI General Ordinary Assembly of the
Synod of the Bishops (October 4th – 29th 2023)
Most Rev. Dr. Raymond Kingsley Wickramasinghe
Bishop of Galle

Remembering with Gratitude

Birthdays:

- | | | |
|------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 25.08.2023 | - | Rev. Sr. Marie Louie A. C. |
| 27.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. S. Sugunenthiran Croos |
| 27.08.2023 | - | Rev. Sr. Raji H. C. |



Ordination Anniversary:

- | | | | |
|------------|---|---------------------------------|------------|
| 01.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. J. Dunstan Fredrick | - 23 Years |
| 18.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. B. Paul Robinson | - 25 Years |
| 19.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. S. Sugunenthiran Croos | - 26 Years |
| 19.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. H. Jude Johnson | - 26 Years |
| 22.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. V. Alan (IVDei) | - 11 Years |
| 24.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. L. Philip | - 45 Years |
| 24.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. A. A. Navaretam | - 29 Years |
| 26.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. S. Mathurangan Croos | - 20 Years |
| 27.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. Newman (OMI) | - 29 Years |

Feast Day:

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 01.08.2023 | - | Rev. Sr. M. Enid A. C. |
| 10.08.2023 | - | Rev. Bro. P. Lawrence F. C. |
| 28.08.2023 | - | Rev. Sr. Marie Louie A. C. |

Death Anniversary:

- | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| 15.08.2023 | - | Rev. Fr. Eugene Herbert S. J. | - 33 Years |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|------------|



Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were administered by His Lordship the Bishop to the Children of St. Joseph's Church, Nilaveli on July 16, 2023.



Inaugural meeting to encourage and prepare students to take part in the Law College Entrance Examination held at Mutur Region held on July 16, 2023. 53 participants from various villages of Mutur participated in this remarkable event.



Opening of a long-felt need of the Kantalawa parish: a decent Parish House for the Parish Priest to reside. His Lordship the Bishop blessed and opened the mission house on July 18, 2023.



Nilaveli Regional Pastoral Council's Meeting and a talk on the theme of 'the Role of the Laity in the Church' held at Nilaveli on June 10, 2023.

Hearty Congratulations

We, the Bishop, Priests, Religious and Lay Faithful extend our warmest greetings and prayers to Very Rev. Fr. B. Paul Robinson, the Vicar General of the Diocese on His Silver Jubilee of Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary on August 18, 2023. Ad Multos Annos Vivit!



Glimpse of Church Feasts



Feast of St. Anthony of Paduva,
Kallarawa, Kutchaveli Parish
13.06.2023

Feast of
St. Anthony of Paduva,
Muttur
25.06.2023



Feast of Our Lady of Madhu,
Varodaya Nagar, Alles Garden Parish
16.07.2023

PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY
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